

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING COMCAST CARES DAY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Comcast Cable Communications for their contributions to community fellowship and well-being as demonstrated in their unique one-day Comcast Cares community project.

Comcast began their tradition of volunteer service in 1997 when Comcast employees and their families participated in the Philadelphia Cares Day. The Philadelphia Cares Day began as a day of city-wide community service in the Comcast headquarters hometown. As the number of employees continued to grow at Comcast, so did the number of Comcast volunteers. The Comcast volunteers are well-known for their enthusiasm, dedication, and for contributions to their community.

In 2001, the spirit of volunteerism and community grew and the Philadelphia Cares Day became company-wide, spread across the country, and was renamed Comcast Cares Day. Six thousand, one hundred Comcast employees participated in over 120 non-profit community projects in 26 states. This new initiative gave Comcast the ability to show their commitment and dedication to each community that it serves.

In Comcast's home state of Pennsylvania, Comcast employees worked on 13 different projects throughout the state. In Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 125 Comcast employees partnered with the Ricketts Community Center and the Pottstown School District to paint and landscape the Pottstown High School, the Pottstown Middle School, and the Community Center. Volunteers also worked in Reading, Pennsylvania with the South Mountain YMCA to clear trails, rebuild a rock-climbing wall, and worked on general clean-up for Camp Conrad Weiser.

It was also in 2001 that Comcast received a total of 11 awards in recognition for their multiple community service initiatives. In 2002, Comcast was awarded the Cable Television Public Affairs Association's Golden Beacon Award, the Association's highest honor, honoring Comcast's service and continuing commitment to the communities they serve, as demonstrated in the 2001 Comcast Cares Day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Comcast Cable Corporation for their commitment to volunteerism and community service, not only in Pennsylvania, but throughout the country.

HONORING CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL'S AMERICAN SPIRIT TOWARD THE VICTIMS OF THE BESLAN SCHOOL TRAGEDY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to say thank you to one of my hometown schools, Christ Our Savior Lutheran School in Coppell, Texas. The students of Christ Our Savior enthusiastically participated in a card giving program for the victims of the Beslan school tragedy.

Before departing for my mission to Russia, I asked several local schools. Today, I would like to say thank you to one of my hometown schools, Christ Our Savior if they would like to create, draw, color or write greeting cards to the survivors and grieving families. The response was overwhelming. I was honored to be able to present hundreds of colorful cards to patients and families.

During my time in Russia, I had the opportunity to visit survivors recuperating at two hospitals. The visits were moving and tearful, but you could see the hearts of American students truly shining in the eyes of the Russian children. I was truly privileged to represent the United States, and especially grateful to be able to share wonderful cards full of encouragement and joy.

Again, thank you, the students of Christ Our Savior Lutheran School for your kindheartedness and thoughtfulness. Your words strongly conveyed the spirit of the American people and our commitment to build relations with countries dedicated to combating global terrorism.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PAUL JONES

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to Paul Jones, a terrific community leader from Grand Junction, Colorado. Paul moved to Colorado and became this small town's only obstetrician/gynecologist. In addition to his medical contributions, Paul was also an active community member, and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his tremendous achievements before this body of Congress.

Paul moved to Grand Junction in 1972 to serve as the city's only obstetrician and gynecologist. During his three decades practicing medicine, he assisted with about 10,000 births. Still active in the community, Paul works with the Community Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital. He also co-chairs the Riverfront Commission, sits on the board of the

Western Colorado Botanical Gardens, and still sees patients at Women's Health care of Western Colorado. This year the Lion's Club in Grand Junction named Paul as Lion of the Year for his commitment to the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Paul Jones for his service to the citizens of Grand Junction. As a doctor, and community leader Paul has always been there, and it is with great pleasure to recognize him today before this body of Congress and this nation. Thank you Paul, I wish you well in all of your future endeavors.

CHARLES FLOWERS, SR.

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during the 2004 Fallen Fire Heroes Memorial Weekend, our nation will come together to honor the 107 firefighters who perished in the line of duty last year. Regretfully, eight Texas firefighters lost their lives, two of whom are from the 8th Congressional District.

We are not here to mourn the loss as much as we are here to celebrate the lives of these dedicated heroes that serve selflessly in the worst of conditions to keep us safe. We celebrate their commitment, their compassion and their courage. So many hours of training; days and nights of service; time away from their families and friends; comradery with their brothers; lives and homes saved . . . it is impossible to put into words our gratitude for these heroes in our lives and our communities.

Charles Flowers, Sr. of the New Caney Volunteer Fire Department will have his name added to the plaques surrounding the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park just outside of Washington, D.C. this weekend.

Charles Flowers, Sr., a veteran firefighter for over 25 years died while responding to a motor vehicle accident with a victim pinned in the vehicle. He collapsed from an apparent heart attack after actively attempting to free the victim from the vehicle. Flowers was well known and loved by this community. He served the New Caney Volunteer Fire Department as Chief, Captain, and finally as Assistant Chief. He was also a representative to the Montgomery County Fire Chiefs Association and a member of the Emergency Services Ministries.

Firefighters represent the best our community has to offer. We honor them today, not only for their final act of bravery but for the lives they led. A firefighter's work can some times be thankless, but of all the men and women I've met, meet challenge and the danger without complaints and without regret. Their lives provided hope and comfort to victims of horrible events that we pray never come to us or the ones we love.

This remembrance service is as much a celebration of their lives and their ideals as it

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

is a time to reflect on what we have lost. Firefighters remind us that heroes are every day people who decide to devote their lives and work to something greater than themselves.

Today we are here to honor Charlie Flowers and his brothers, the 106 nationwide who've sacrificed so much. With the start of a new day, we honor the families and friends they've left behind. Mr. Speaker, our prayers are always with them. Together as a community we say thank you to those who will stand in the place of those who have fallen and will continue to faithfully serve and protect.

IN HONOR OF JOE HOLSINGER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Joe Holsinger who died on September 10, 2004, at the age of 82.

Joe Holsinger was a distinguished public servant with a long record of service to the people of California. He was a brilliant man, a political mentor to me and to many others, and he will be missed by everyone who had the privilege of knowing him.

Joe Holsinger was born Galen Wright Holsinger on November 24, 1921, in Bellwood, Pennsylvania. He attended the University of Pittsburgh for two and a half years before enlisting in the U.S. Army and completing his service as an officer. After World War II he settled in California, graduated from U.C. Santa Barbara, and began a career in real estate.

His career in public service began in 1975 when he became Congressman Leo Ryan's Administrative Assistant, in charge of both the Washington, D.C. and San Mateo offices. After Congressman Ryan's tragic assassination in Guyana in November, 1978, Joe unsuccessfully sought the Congressional seat. He returned to his former career for several years in real estate as head of Holsinger Properties, Inc. During this time he met Bill Honig, a school district superintendent from Marin County who was seeking election as California's Superintendent of Public Instruction. He supported Bill Honig in his successful 1982 campaign and then joined his staff as a special consultant on school reform legislation. He became Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1983 and was instrumental in the enactment of the Hughes-Hart School Reform bill (SB 813). He left the Department of Education in 1985 to return to his commercial real estate practice, but returned in late 1988 at the request of Superintendent Honig and resumed his position as Deputy Superintendent for Governmental Policy. Joe Holsinger retired in December 1994, but continued to consult with many legislators in Sacramento until earlier this year.

Joe was a founding member of Americans for Democratic Action (1947), the first president of the Federated Young Democrats of San Francisco (1949) and a founding member and chairman of the Credentials Committee for the first state convention of the California Democratic Council (CDC) in 1953. He was a longstanding member of the California Democratic Party and state executive committee, serving two terms as Chairman of the Rules

Committee and as the Northern California chairman from 1968 to 1970. Joe Holsinger also served as Northern California chairman for the 1968 Eugene McCarthy presidential primary campaign and Jimmy Carter's successful campaign for President in 1976.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of this patriotic American, distinguished public servant, successful private sector leader, father and grandfather.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OLYMPIAN
TERIN HUMPHREY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that Olympic gymnast, Terin Humphrey, of Bates City, Missouri, received two silver medals at the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece.

Terin was born on August 14, 1986, in St. Joseph, Missouri. After graduating from Odessa High School in the spring of 2004, she now plans to attend the University of Alabama. While at Odessa High School, Terin trained at the Great American Gymnastic Express gym for daily six hour workouts. Terin was coached by Al Fong and his wife, Armine Barutyan-Fong. Terin trained with her Olympic teammate, Courtney McCool.

Terin always has been a strong all around gymnast and has a strong record in the sport. Terin was a member of the 2003 gold medal winning United States World Championships Team. In 2004, at the Visa American Cup, Terin won bronze medals in three events: uneven bars, vault and floor. Terin then placed third in the all around at the 2004 United States Championships. In the summer of 2004, Terin made her Olympic debut at Athens, where she won two silver medals for the team competition and for the uneven bars event.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my congratulations to Terin Humphrey for her achievements at the 2004 Summer Olympics.

HONORING HAROLD ZINKIN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Harold Zinkin of Fresno, California posthumously for his service to his community and generous good will. Mr. Zinkin recently passed away on September 22, 2004.

Harold Zinkin was born in San Francisco, California, on May 11, 1922. As the son of proud Russian immigrants, this first-generation American went on to live a life that was nothing short of achieving the American Dream.

In response to the attack on Pearl Harbor, Harold enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was ready to serve his country in any capacity. While serving, he found his talent was in physical therapy. His zeal for health and wellness continued to follow him after his military service. Mr. Zinkin became a champion

bodybuilder and was one of the patriarchs of California's fitness movement that rose out of the famed "Muscle Beach." In addition, Harold's vision for the future of health and wellness came to fruition through his creation of revolutionary fitness equipment, the "Universal Gym Machine." As an established pioneer of the fitness movement, Mr. Zinkin helped many achieve bodybuilding success, and lead many more toward making positive lifestyle changes centered on physical fitness.

Regarded by business colleagues as a successful businessman with an extraordinary business outlook towards future successful ventures, Mr. Zinkin was instrumental in creating one of the most dynamic and successful shopping/entertainment complexes throughout California's Central Valley.

Harold Zinkin was perhaps most renowned for the quality of his character and tremendous good will.

He is survived by his wife Betty, son DeWayne and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harold Zinkin for his tremendous service to his community. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring him for his commitment to excellence, good will, and for touching lives in the Central Valley and worldwide.

HONORING MARGIE DINGELDEIN

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margie Dingeldein, a remarkable individual and outstanding athlete who as a member of the U.S. Olympic women's water polo team won the bronze medal at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

Ms. Dingeldein was born and raised in Merced, California. Her talent and love for the water was recognized early when by age 3, she could swim across a 25 yard pool without coming up for a single breathe of air. Her energy and endurance continued throughout her career, placing her among the best female athletes to come out of the San Joaquin Valley.

Ms. Dingeldein attended Merced High School where she was determined to maintain a well-rounded life. While competing in year-round sports, she remained committed to community service, and her studies, graduating as the valedictorian of the class of 1998. She completed her high school swimming career setting Central California Conference swim records in the 100 and 200 freestyle events, confirming that she was ready for her transition to Stanford University.

While at Stanford, Ms. Dingeldein received three All-American honors, and helped the Cardinal appear in two consecutive NCAA Championships. She continued a family legacy of Stanford graduates, earning a pre-med degree in human biology in 2002. Her endurance and determination culminated with her Olympic appearance after 20 years of competition.

Ms. Dingeldein's bronze medal has made her more than an Olympic medalist. Her international success made her a local hero, as she is among the first Olympic medalists from Merced County. As a role model for our youth, she serves as a superlative example that will inspire and encourage our young athletes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Margie Dingeldein for her accomplishments. It is an honor to recognize all of her accomplishments and thank her for being such a fine role model to our community, and our country.

RECOGNIZING THE NORTH CAROLINA CIVIC EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, while many institutions help to develop Americans' knowledge and skills and shape their civic character and commitments, our nation's schools bear a special and historic responsibility to provide our students an adequate civic education.

On September 20–22, 2003, the first annual Congressional Conference on Civic Education was launched. The conference was sponsored by the Alliance for Representative Democracy and co-hosted by the four leaders of the U.S. Congress. One of the very positive outcomes of the Congressional Conference was the establishment of state delegations that would return to the state to enact specific policies designed to restore the civic mission of our schools.

I would like to recognize the North Carolina Civic Education Consortium at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, facilitator of our state's delegation, for helping the delegation design a strong action plan to improve civic education. This action plan and related efforts have led to the following accomplishments: hosting a successful statewide policy summit on the civic mission of schools for state and local policymakers; securing grant funds to pilot model practices and policies in two school systems that could have statewide implications; developing a new resource guide for schools to help them implement new civic education legislation; and gaining visibility and support from the State Board of Education.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to North Carolina's continued leadership in civic education reform and their participation in the second annual Congressional Conference on Civic Education, which will be held on December 4–6, 2004.

HONORING WILSHIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S AMERICAN SPIRIT TOWARD THE VICTIMS OF THE BESLAN SCHOOL TRAGEDY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to say thank you to one of my hometown schools, Wilshire Elementary School in Euless, Texas. The students of Wilshire enthusiastically participated in a card giving program for the victims of the Beslan school tragedy.

Before departing for my mission to Russia, I asked several local schools if they would like

to create, draw, color or write greeting cards to the survivors and grieving families. The response was overwhelming. I was honored to be able to present hundreds of colorful cards to patients and families.

During my time in Russia, I had the opportunity to visit survivors recuperating at two hospitals. The visits were moving and tearful, but you could see the hearts of American students truly shining in the eyes of the Russian children. I was truly privileged to represent the United States, and especially grateful to be able to share wonderful cards full of encouragement and joy.

Again, thank you, the students of Wilshire Elementary School for your kindheartedness and thoughtfulness. Your words strongly conveyed the spirit of the American people and our commitment to build relations with countries dedicated to combating global terrorism.

TRIBUTE TO FRANKLYN G. BROYLES, JR. FOR RECEIVING THE 2004 ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION HUMANITARIAN AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Reverend Franklyn G. Broyles, Jr. of Huntsville for receiving the 2004 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award. This award is given annually to a person in the Huntsville community who has displayed exemplary community leadership.

Reverend Broyles was born and raised in Huntsville, Alabama and after graduating from Vanderbilt Divinity School, Reverend Broyles returned to North Alabama and currently serves as the Minister of Church and Community with the Faith Presbyterian Church. He also serves as the Executive Minister of the Huntsville Association for Pastoral Care and Program Director of the Huntsville area chapter of the National Conference for Community and Justice.

Reverend Broyles has also vigorously given his time to the community. He was the first Administrative Director of Hospice of Huntsville and he served as the Director of the Campus Ministry Association at the University of Alabama in Huntsville for fifteen years. Reverend Broyles has also volunteered his leadership to numerous community organizations.

Additionally, Reverend Broyles is known for his strong commitment to worldwide and interfaith understanding. His service in interagency, worldwide, and interfaith work has earned him close to thirty awards.

Mr. Speaker, Frank's ability to bring people together and provide a positive influence on the entire community is something that we all should strive to do. On behalf of the people of North Alabama, I would like to congratulate Frank Broyles for being named the 2004 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award winner.

HONORING WILLIAM OSTASH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today on behalf of the Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame to honor the late Mr. William Ostash of Bay City, Michigan for his contributions to the Polka Music Industry. On October 3, 2004 the Michigan State Polka Music Industry will honor Mr. William Ostash by inducting him into the Polka Music Hall of Fame.

William Ostash was born in Saskatchewan, Canada on December 11, 1915 to Michael and Anna Ostash. In December of 1926, William and his family moved to Bay City, Michigan. At a young age William along with his siblings learned the value of music from their father, who was a well-known violinist in his native country of Ukraine. William who was a self-taught accordion player, performed with the family Orchestra for many years. The Ostash Orchestra music was so popular that it gained airtime on radio station WBCM. History has it that William was one of the first to incorporate the accordion into polka music. Another note worthy of mentioning is that William was also a master at performing the march called "Under the Double Eagle", and according to his family audiences were always amazed at how he could play this tune using his left hand, the bass side, with 120 buttons.

Aside from his musical career, William was a devoted husband to his lovely wife Julie, whom he married on May 3, 1941. To this union were born two sons, James and Ronald. On April 8, 2002 Julie Ostash passed away, and William passed on July 20, 2002. William was a legend and true contributor to the Polka Musical Industry. His contributions will be forever cherished.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. William Ostash who devoted many years to Polka Music Industry. May he rest in peace.

HONORING CALHOUN MIDDLE SCHOOL'S AMERICAN SPIRIT TOWARD THE VICTIMS OF THE BESLAN SCHOOL TRAGEDY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to say thank you to one of my hometown schools, Calhoun Middle School in Denton, Texas. The students of Calhoun Middle School enthusiastically participated in a card giving program for the victims of the Beslan school tragedy.

Before departing for my mission to Russia, I asked several local schools if they would like to create, draw, color or write greeting cards to the survivors and grieving families. The response was overwhelming. I was honored to be able to present hundreds of colorful cards to patients and families.

During my time in Russia, I had the opportunity to visit survivors recuperating at two hospitals. The visits were moving and tearful,

but you could see the hearts of American students truly shining in the eyes of the Russian children. I was truly privileged to represent the United States, and especially grateful to be able to share wonderful cards full of encouragement and joy.

Again, thank you, the students of Calhoun Middle School for your kindheartedness and thoughtfulness. Your words strongly conveyed the spirit of the American people and our commitment to build relations with countries dedicated to combating global terrorism.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ROGER
CAZARES

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate Roger Cazares upon the occasion of his retirement as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee (MAAC) Project, a multi-purpose social service agency (with a successful 39 year history of serving various communities throughout San Diego County).

After graduating from San Diego State University with a Political Science Degree, Roger headed to the MAAC Project. Thirty years later, he leaves MAAC as one of the most successful social service agencies in the country with 400 employees, an annual operating budget of over \$16 million and over \$100 million in assets.

Under Roger Cazares' leadership MAAC Project has become an agency that serves over 35,000 individuals per year and staffs 35 sites bringing to its constituents empowering social services, health components, a state of arts charter school, technology centers, economic development, and affordable housing. Roger is a man with a vision that has empowered his staff at the MAAC Project to serve as many people as possible and not be afraid to expand to new services. Roger's legacy at the agency includes creating new leaders by mentoring a younger generation and inspiring them to believe in their potential.

The growth that the MAAC Project has seen under Roger's tenure includes an increase in the agency's North San Diego County Head Start Child Development schools center sites from 4 to 17. Enrollment at these centers went up from 400 to 1,100 children, directly impacting parental participation and involvement in those children's lives. Thanks to Roger's direction MAAC established two residential care facilities for recovering drug and alcohol dependent individuals housed at Casa de Milagros, for women, and Casa Nosotros, for men. Roger Cazares ensured MAAC's summer employment for over 1,000 South Bay youth annually, in cooperation with the Private Industry Council. The MAAC also provided English as a second language and government classes to over 12,000 adults in San Diego County through the Immigration Reform Control Act of 1986 for 5 years.

Roger has made an impact in the community not only by augmenting social services that local government provides but also by becoming involved in the Housing Crisis that San Diego County faces. Roger Cazares created

the agency's Housing and Community Development Department in 1991 that has developed more than 1,000 rental units of affordable housing and 12 single family homes, developed, a community development strategy specifically targeting the residents of MAAC's apartment communities, and recently expanded the department to include a property management component. Under Mr. Cazares' leadership, MAAC Project has grown to be one of the premier affordable housing developers in the region.

Roger Cazares also has left his footprint in the education arena by providing leadership and harnessing his national network for support to fund and open MAAC Community Charter School in Chula Vista. The Charter School is a first class operation that offers hope and opportunity for our deserving youth.

Roger's contributions to the community go beyond the MAAC Project. He was president of the National City Chamber of Commerce from 1994–1995; he served on the National Council of La Raza Board of Directors and Executive Committee for six years. Roger has received a multitude of awards for his community service such as the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Business Leadership Award, Hispanic Heritage Local Heroes Award presented by KPBS & Union Bank of California, the United Way Ben Polak Community Service Award, the UCSD Excellence in Community Service Award, recipient of Reconocimiento OHTLI Community Service Award presented by the Mexican Government.

Roger is joined in celebrating his accomplishments by his wife and lifelong partner of 30 years, Norma Cazares; their daughters Leticia and Nicole; and their son Javier. My best wishes go to my friend Roger Cazares, a visionary, an activist, a great leader, and a good man.

TRIBUTE TO MINISTER BRUCE
RIVERA

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a committed community activist and advocate Minister Bruce Rivera, a resident of my district who has been committed to improving the community in which he was born and raised, will soon be celebrating his ordination in the United Church of Christ.

Minister Rivera was born and raised in the South Bronx. He attended the public school system in the city of New York, and after graduation, he joined the United States Air Force. He served his nation with distinction, and earned both the Purple Heart and the Cross of Gallantry for his actions during the conflict in Beirut. After five years in the armed services, Minister Rivera returned to the community in which he was raised.

He immediately transferred that same tenacity and dedication to country to his efforts in the local community, becoming committed to improving the South Bronx. He founded South Bronx Churches, an ecumenical organization that has built more than 800 homes in the South Bronx. He also founded the Boston Road Association for Community Empowerment, which serves the interests of more than

700 families in the Morrisania section of the Bronx. He continues to keep himself involved in the community and the city, as a member of the local community planning board, the Chaplain for the 42nd Police Precinct Community Council, and as a Management Analyst at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Since becoming licensed in the Gospel ministry, Minister Rivera has worked on a dizzying array of ecumenical projects. He ministers to inmates at Rikers Island and the Downstate Correctional Custody Facility. His work with police officers after the events of September 11th recently won him recognition from both the City Council and the NYPD.

Mr. Speaker, Minister Rivera has typified the ideals of dedication and compassion. For twenty years, he has worked to improve the lives of countless individuals in the South Bronx. Minister Rivera has been selfless of his time and his talents, and the Bronx is better for it.

Minister Rivera could not have accomplished all of these things without the love and support of his wife, Maria, and his son Bruce Anthony.

Mr. Speaker, Minister Bruce Rivera is a fine example of a great community leader and a person dedicated through his faith to helping others. I am grateful to have such a deeply committed person doing his good work in my district. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his past achievement and in anticipating many great things to come.

HONORING FLORENCE ELEMEN-
TARY SCHOOL'S AMERICAN SPIRIT
TOWARD THE VICTIMS OF
THE BESLAN SCHOOL TRAGEDY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to say thank you to one of my hometown schools, Florence Elementary School in Southlake, Texas. The students of Florence enthusiastically participated in a card giving program for the victims of the Beslan school tragedy.

Before departing for my mission to Russia, I asked several local schools if they would like to create, draw, color or write greeting cards to the survivors and grieving families. The response was overwhelming. I was honored to be able to present hundreds of colorful cards to patients and families.

During my time in Russia, I had the opportunity to visit survivors recuperating at two hospitals. The visits were moving and tearful, but you could see the hearts of American students truly shining in the eyes of the Russian children. I was truly privileged to represent the United States, and especially grateful to be able to share wonderful cards full of encouragement and joy.

Again, thank you, the students of Florence Elementary School for your kindheartedness and thoughtfulness. Your words strongly conveyed the spirit of the American people and our commitment to build relations with countries dedicated to combating global terrorism.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HOSPICE AND
PALLIATIVE CARE OF WESTERN
COLORADO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the staff of the Hospice and Palliative Care of Western Colorado, a dedicated medical center in my hometown of Grand Junction, Colorado. For years the center has been providing exceptional leadership and innovation in the palliative and end-of-life care arenas. In recognition of their accomplishments the center recently received the 2004 Circle of Life Citation of Honor from the American Hospital Association. I am proud to join my colleagues here today before this body of Congress and this nation in congratulating them on this award.

Every year the American Hospital Association, a non-profit group of health-care provider organizations and individuals comprising over 5,000 members, awards programs across the country that have found new ways to expand their services and blend traditional medical care and end-of-life care. The programs that are selected serve as national role models for other American communities to look to for examples of compassionate health care. Hospice and Palliative Care of Western Colorado was given a citation of honor for integration and administration of its services in the numerous divergent geographic communities throughout Western Colorado. The center has made significant strides in tailoring every program for the realities and needs of each individual community.

Mr. Speaker, Hospice and Palliative Care of Western Colorado is a dedicated organization that has provided excellent health care to the citizens of Colorado for several years. The center's careful consideration and planning for the communities they aide have made Colorado a shining example for the rest of the country and I am honored to recognize their endeavors today before this body and this nation. Their devotion and commitment to aiding those in need is certainly commendable. I would like to extend my congratulations on this recognition from the American Hospital Association, and I personally want to thank the staff of Hospice and Palliative Care of Western Colorado for all their hard work.

DELORES A. MAGUIRE

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to show America's deep appreciation for Delores A. Maguire, M.S., R.D., C.S.P., L.D., who will be deployed to Iraq next May serving as a Captain in the U.S. Army in the war against terror in which we are fighting for a safer world, free from the threat of terror in our daily lives. Delores has served faithfully six years as a Registered Pediatric Dietician at Memorial Hermann Hospital and the Texas Children's Hospital in the renowned Texas Medical Center—Houston.

While overseeing the diets of patients in an Army hospital, Delores will undoubtedly apply her background as a Pediatric Dietician to ensure her patients a successful recovery. As a former member of the United States Navy and the United States Army Reserve, Delores will use her military training, coupled with her extensive medical knowledge to become a valuable asset to the Army in the form of a strong leader and a productive team player.

On a personal level, every one of her colleagues and co-workers tell me that Delores is sincere, honest, hardworking and is a great listener. She is down-to-earth, has a refreshing sense of humor and a way of making very difficult challenges seem easy and uncomplicated. She is committed to excellence and is always there to help others personally and professionally. What a wonderful role model.

Equally important, she never misses a Houston Texans football game and is one of the Texans' greatest fans. Mr. Speaker, many are honored to be her friend, family or colleague, and on behalf of the constituents of the 8th District of Texas we express our pride in her services and pray for a safe return.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE OW

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, Mr. FARR and I rise today to honor the life of George Ow, a local businessman and philanthropist, who passed away July 26, 2004 at the age of 85. He was a beloved member of the Scoffs Valley community and well known throughout Santa Cruz County for his generous nature. He is survived by seven children and 14 grandchildren.

George Ow emigrated from China to the United States in 1937, arriving in Santa Cruz to begin his quest for the American Dream. He eventually emerged as one of our region's most prominent businessmen and philanthropists and his life story now stands as an outstanding model of achievement for all.

Before becoming successful, George Ow had a long uphill climb that proved his perseverance and determination. He first worked in his uncle's grocery store while attending and eventually graduating from Santa Cruz High School. From 1944 to 1945 George Ow served in the United States Army and participated in the Allied Liberation of the Philippines. After his service in the military he returned to the Central Coast, building the foundations for his successful business ventures. Investing in commercial real estate, George Ow single-handedly created the business corridor along Capitola's 41st Avenue and Scotts Valley's King's Village Shopping Center.

Throughout his rise to fortune and success, George Ow never forgot the community that nurtured him in his earlier days as a young immigrant. For more than three decades, he was active in the National Exchange Club, a national organization dedicated to community service and youth outreach. In the 1970s he was elected as President of the Club, the first time this post was filled by a non-white individual. He also created dozens of youth scholarships for minority students and donated money to local arts groups, such as Shake-

speare Santa Cruz, and a variety of other health foundations. George Ow returned large portions of wealth back to his community, a gift that strengthens our community and our country.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in extending our condolences to George Ow's family and friends. As a dedicated member of the Santa Cruz and Scotts Valley community, his achievements in life represent the epitome of the American Dream. He will be missed greatly by the community he loved, served, and gave so much to.

RECOGNIZING SENATOR JOHN T.
RUSSELL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, a distinguished career in Missouri State Senate will soon end. Missouri State Senator John T. Russell will retire at the end of the year.

Senator Russell was born on September 22, 1931 in Lebanon, Missouri and grew up on a farm near Gasconade River. After graduating from Lebanon High School, he attended Drury College in Springfield, Missouri.

Senator Russell has had an impressive legislative career. He first was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1962 and served until 1974. During his time in the State House, he held the position of Minority Floor Leader in 1971 and 1972. Then, in November 1976, Senator Russell was elected to the Missouri Senate, representing the counties in south central and southwest Missouri. While in the State Senate he served as Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, member of the Gubernatorial Appointments Committee and member of the Transportation Committee.

In addition to his legislative work, Senator Russell has a record of service and leadership in the community. He received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Southwest Baptist University in 1979. The Missouri Chamber of Commerce presented Senator Russell with the Spirit of Enterprise Award. He received the Guardian of Small Business Award from the National Federation of Independent Business. In 1997, he was given the Community Service Award from the Lebanon Area Chamber of Commerce. Also, he is a member of the First Baptist Church in Lebanon, Missouri, and is a Veteran of the United States Air Force, serving in the Korean War.

Mr. Speaker, I know the Members of this House will join me in thanking Senator Russell for his life of public service and in wishing him and his family all the best in the years to come.

HONORING ALISON COX

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Alison Cox of Turlock, California for winning the Silver Medal in the

Women's Eight Rowing event at the 2004 Athens Olympic Games. It was the first medal for the US Women's Eight Rowing team since they won the Gold Medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

Alison Cox began her rowing career at the age of 19 as a sophomore at the University of San Diego where she received her degree in Communications. She earned All-West Region honors in 2001 and All-West Coast Conference honors for three seasons 1999–2001. She competed at the 2000 under-23 World Championships and won the Gold Medal in the Women's Four Rowing event. Alison advanced to the senior national team in 2001 and helped the U.S. Women's Eight Rowing team win the Gold Medal at the 2002 World Championships.

While at Turlock High School she excelled in athletics. She lettered in tennis, soccer, basketball, and in softball, where she also received the team's most valuable player award.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alison Cox for winning the Silver Medal in the Women's Eight Rowing event at the 2004 Athens Olympic Games and for all of her accomplishments in athletics. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing her many years of continued success.

HONORING JAMILL KELLY

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jamill Kelly, an exceptional individual and remarkable athlete who won a silver medal in Freestyle Wrestling at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

Born and raised in my hometown of Atwater, California, Mr. Kelly attended my alma mater, Atwater High School where his wrestling career began with placing fourth in the 1995 state championships. Mr. Kelly's success as a wrestler continued as he attended Lassen Junior College, taking second in the 1996 Junior College Nationals. He then graduated from Oklahoma State University in 2000, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in History.

Over the past four years, the former Oklahoma State wrestler remained dedicated to his dream. He continued to train vigorously and compete among the nations finest wrestlers, in order to have the chance to prove his outstanding athletic ability on the world stage. This summer, Mr. Kelly achieved his dream as he spent his summer winning a silver medal in Freestyle Wrestling at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

Mr. Kelly is the city of Atwater's first Olympic medalist. He has become an inspiration to the student athletes of Atwater High School, who witnessed a fellow Falcon strive to reach his dreams in becoming the pinnacle of his sport. He has become a local hero, a national champion, and a world-renown athlete.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Jamill Kelly for his outstanding accomplishments. I am delighted to recognize all of his dedication and hard earned achievements, and thank him for being a role model to our community, and our country.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COUNT EVERY VOTE ACT

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Count Every Vote Act, legislation to provide additional time, when needed, for conducting recounts of votes in presidential elections.

At its core, our form of government is based on the premise of "one person, one vote." The presidential election of 2000, however, demonstrated how precarious that tenet can be. In the midst of an ongoing challenge to the election result in the state of Florida, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that manual recounts could not continue because there was not enough time to undertake a proper recount prior to the meeting of the Electoral College. The unsatisfactory result was a president who took office with a cloud hanging over him in the eyes of many Americans.

Given the close nature of the current presidential race, there is a very real chance that we could be faced with a similar situation five weeks from now. We could easily wake up on November 3rd with a swing state election controversy, the outcome of which could decide who will be the President of the United States for the next four years. And it could take more than the 35 days allowed under current law to resolve the controversy without risking the loss of a state's electoral votes.

Mr. Speaker, I request that a June 15 Roll Call column by Leonard Shambon, a counsel with Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr and former assistant to the co-chairman of the Ford-Carter Commission on Election Reform, be reprinted in the Record following my remarks. In his column, Mr. Shambon makes a strong case for the need to reform the timing of the Electoral College, and I have drawn from his expertise in this particular area of elections law. I appreciate Mr. Shambon's tireless research and collaboration in developing a solution to this problem.

The bill I am introducing today has the support of leading scholars renowned for their research in the electoral process, including Thomas Mann, the W. Averell Harriman Chair and Senior Fellow in Governance Studies at The Brookings Institution; John C. Fortier, a research fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and editor of and contributor to *After the People Vote: A Guide to the Electoral College*; and Norman J. Ornstein, a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, columnist for Roll Call, and contributor to *After the People Vote*. It would establish a contingency date for the meeting of electors in all states, but only when a challenge to a state's presidential election result remains unresolved as of three days prior to the Electoral College meeting date defined in current law. For the upcoming election, if a recount in any state were ongoing as of December 10, the bill would establish January 3rd as the new meeting date for the Electoral College, providing 59 days—24 days more than current law—to ensure that the recount is given as much time as possible to be resolved.

In a dissenting opinion on the 2000 election contest that the U.S. Supreme Court later upheld, Florida Supreme Court Justice Major

Harding appropriately noted, "The circumstances of this election call to mind a quote from football coaching legend Vince Lombardi: 'We didn't lose the game, we just ran out of time.'" We cannot afford to run out of time when it comes to ensuring the integrity of our presidential election contests. That is a conclusion on which everyone should agree.

I invite my colleagues to join me in ensuring that our electoral process is given the most time possible to resolve any contested election results by cosponsoring the Count Every Vote Act.

[From Roll Call, June 15, 2004]

ELECTORAL-COLLEGE REFORM REQUIRES CHANGE OF TIMING

(By Leonard M. Shambon)

This is a modest proposal to reform the Electoral College. No, it would not abolish the Electoral College, just change its timing.

In 2000, the U.S. Supreme Court called off the Florida recount because it believed that the recount could not be concluded in time to conform to the schedule established by federal statute for the electoral college.

One of the Florida Supreme Court justices, whose position was upheld by the Supreme Court, analogized the Gore camp's predicament to a quote from Vince Lombardi: "We didn't lose the game, we just ran out of time." But running out of time should not control the outcome in 2004.

Under the federal statute, each state's presidential electors are to meet on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December. If a state appoints its presidential electors at least six days before that date, then its choice of electors cannot be overridden. The U.S. Supreme Court in *Bush v. Gore* believed it was imperative to block the recount ordered by the Florida Supreme Court because the recount could not be completed by the six-day cutoff before the electors' meeting.

But the aftermath of the *Bush v. Gore* decision, no one seriously examined the question of whether the federal statutory dates make any sense. Fearing endless debates about whether the Electoral College should be completely abolished, no one looked at the peculiarities of the federal law. But there's still time for Congress to do so this year.

Congress should amend 17 words in the statute to push those dates into January, so that any state recounts and contests that occur this fall can proceed at a more orderly pace.

The federal statutory scheme, first adopted in 1792, provides the dates for four events: (1) the states' appointing their electors, on Election Day; (2) having the electors meet and vote; (3) reporting the results to Congress; and (4) the Congressional counting.

Congress has changed the dates on which those events are to occur five times, most recently in 1934 in response to the ratification of the 20th Amendment to the Constitution, which moved the date of inauguration back from March 3 to Jan. 20.

In 1934, the Roosevelt administration recommended to Congress that the period between Election Day and the date of the electors' meeting be set at 41 days. Records reveal that a government attorney chose the 41-day period arbitrarily, without any further explanation.

Congress, without any legislative explanation, went along with this change even though it significantly shortened the period from its pre-existing statutory length.

One Member of Congress, Judiciary Committee Chairman Hatton Sumners (D-Texas), did speak out against the shortened period during the House debate, and in subsequent

years, Sumners kept up the drumbeat, noting that it "requires no great imagination to visualize what might develop in a close election when feeling was running high with a belief that wholesale fraud had been perpetrated in one or more pivotal States with no possibility of a final judicial determination."

Sumners' "serious situation" arose in 2000, and it could easily happen again this year. An era of electronic communication and overnight couriers, Congress should immediately lengthen the period between Election Day and the date of the electors' meeting.

The electors' meeting should occur as few days as possible before the Jan. 6 Congressional counting date. The six-day deadline for a state's choice of electors should be changed to the new date for the electors' meeting. And delivery of the electors' votes to Congress should be accomplished by any rapid and secure method, not just by registered mail as is currently required.

Making the date, say, Jan. 3, would provide an additional four weeks this year for an unrushed review.

We should not be hamstrung by a redundant and slow transmission scheme built for an earlier time. The states should have the maximum time, within the framework of the existing November election date and the Congressional counting date, to resolve any contested elections. This time, the game clock should not control the outcome.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO REDDEN FAMILY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to the Redden family from Gunnison, Colorado. LeOna, Tom, Brett and Wendy represent two generations of Gunnison cattle ranchers, and are truly outstanding citizens of Colorado. I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing their tremendous achievements before this body of Congress and this Nation.

As owners and managers of a 2000-acre ranch outside of Gunnison, they have honored their trade with distinction for over a century. In addition to being ranchers, each has contributed significantly to their community. Tom Redden participates with the Gunnison County Stock-growers' Association, the Cattleman Days committee, the Oddfellows, and the Elks Lodge. He also presided over the Soil Conservation Board. LeOna Redden is a member of the Rebeccas and is the state secretary of the military branch of Oddfellows. In recognition of their service to the industry, the couple was honored earlier this year as parade marshals of the Cattleman's Day parade.

Brett Redden and Wendy Hanson, grandchildren of the ranch's founder, currently operate the ranch with the help of their respective families. In addition to ranching, the two families have contributed to their community and the environment. Brett works at the local airport while Wendy works as the director of finance for the city of Gunnison. The pair have also protected almost 1000 acres of land with a conservation easement, and donated additional land to the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor the Redden family for their longstanding commit-

ment to Gunnison and their contributions to the environment and the citizens of Colorado. It is with great pleasure to recognize them today before this body of Congress and this nation.

TRIBUTE TO COY J. HALLMARK FOR RECEIVING THE 2004 ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION HUMANITARIAN AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Reverend Coy J. Hallmark of Huntsville for receiving the 2004 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award. This award is given annually to a person in the Huntsville community who has displayed exemplary community leadership.

As an undergraduate at the University of North Alabama, Reverend Hallmark received his first pastoral appointment at a church in Lexington, Alabama. After earning a Master of Divinity Degree from Emory University, Reverend Hallmark was commissioned as a chaplain in the United States Army in 1983. He is currently a Lieutenant Colonel with the 279th Signal Battalion in the Alabama National Guard where he provides spiritual support and supervision for the battalion chaplains in Huntsville, Florence, Mobile and Ft. Lewis, Washington.

In 1986, after returning from a military exercise in South Korea, Reverend Hallmark became an associate pastor at my church, the First United Methodist Church of Huntsville, a role he has served ever since. During his tenure, the church has seen a large increase in its membership and it has been more inclusive and accessible.

In addition to his pastoral duties, Reverend Hallmark has vigorously committed his time volunteering for numerous community organizations that promote the welfare of persons with disabilities and provide them with access to assistive technology devices and services to increase independence in the home, school, and work environments. This issue is close to Coy's heart. His daughter, Rachel was diagnosed with cerebral palsy in 1982.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Hallmark has been a well respected and thoughtful member of our church and community for many years. On behalf of the people of North Alabama, I congratulate my friend, Coy Hallmark on being named the 2004 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award winner.

BAY COUNTY'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the Bay Area Women's Center of Bay City, Michigan for their diligence and dedication to educating the community on the devastating effects of domestic violence and for supporting numerous victims and their fam-

ilies. The month of October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. On Tuesday, October 5, 2004 the Bay Area Women's Center will host their annual vigil and awareness walk to show and renew their commitment to ending domestic violence.

As we enter into National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I urge every community leader, resident, and law enforcement officer to come together and take a stance against this hideous crime not just during the month of awareness, but every day throughout the year. Countless lives are lost and homes are broken as result of this preventable crime. We as a community must educate ourselves on the warning signs. We must also be willing to alert the authorities before a situation becomes violent. Domestic violence is prevalent in all communities. It knows no status or ethnicity. This is a vicious crime sweeping our Nation with many victims too afraid or simply not aware they are victims until it is too late. I am thankful for the Bay Area Women's Center, for they are committed to helping people in crisis. They hold true to their philosophy that every individual maintains the right to live free of fear and violence. Survival of organizations such as this one is critical if domestic violence is to be an issue of the past. We must support these organizations and help them spread the word that domestic violence will not be tolerated. During the month of October renew your own commitment to stamping out domestic violence by first assuring that you or your loved ones are not falling prey to this repulsive crime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in honoring the Bay City Women's Center for their tireless efforts in promoting domestic violence awareness and for providing a supportive, and non-judgmental environment to those who have become victims.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DOUG SCHAKEL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to Doug Schakel, a gifted teacher and coach from Grand Junction, Colorado. Doug has been coaching basketball at the high school and college levels for over thirty-two years. During that time, he has earned many accolades, and has touched many lives in Colorado. This year Doug has been inducted into the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Hall of Fame, and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his tremendous achievements before this body of Congress and this Nation.

As a student at Central Iowa University, Doug began his journey to being one of the most successful collegiate coaches in Colorado history. There he played on their varsity basketball team where he developed an interest in coaching. After several years of coaching at various high school programs, Doug eventually ended up as the head coach at Mesa State College in 1978. During his eighteen years as head coach, Doug led the team to an impressive seven conference titles. He also had the best overall record of any coach in the history of Mesa State. In addition, Doug

coached four All-Americans, and two Academic All-Americans. He also served as the school's athletic director from 1979 to 1981 and again from 1998–2001. In 1996, he retired from coaching the men's team at Mesa State to focus on teaching full-time.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor the accomplishments of this great Colorado citizen. Doug Schakel's dedication to the student athletes throughout his career, and his success as a basketball coach are testaments to his character, and it is with great pleasure to recognize him today before this body of Congress and this Nation. Congratulations, Doug, on this well deserved award, and good luck with all of your future endeavors.

COMPACT FOR SUCCESS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of funding in the Labor-Health and Human Services-Education Appropriations bill for the Compact for Success, an educational reform and college guarantee program at the Sweetwater Union High School District, located in my Congressional District in California. The Sweetwater Education Foundation, a non-profit organization, facilitates this program.

The Sweetwater Union High School District serves the densely populated corridor between downtown San Diego and the international border with Mexico, including nearly 40,000 students in grades seven through twelve. These students live in some of the most diverse and economically disadvantaged communities in the state. The schools serve large numbers of "latchkey" children, many of whom enter school behind in basic academic skills. Nearly half of the students in the district qualify for free or reduced price meals, a figure that is as high as 90 percent at some sites.

In addition to their economic disadvantage, a significant percentage of Sweetwater youth come from homes where adult educational attainment is low. Many parents are new immigrants with limited schooling in their home countries. With little history of academic success, these adults often lack the first-hand "know-how" so critical in helping their children reach high achievement goals and think about attending college.

With 84 percent of its students coming from ethnicities traditionally under-represented in higher education, Sweetwater is one of California's most diverse districts. More than half of Sweetwater's students speak a language other than English at home.

The Compact for Success, now entering its fifth year, is raising the bar academically and giving the Sweetwater students the tools to reach their goal of attending a four-year university. Compact participants are students of Sweetwater Union High School District, who complete six years in the Compact program in exchange for guaranteed admission to San Diego State University.

Even though the first class of Compact students is in the 11th grade, the impact of higher expectations is already evident. This year, the number of graduating seniors admitted to

San Diego State University shows a 76 percent increase since 1999, the year the Compact began.

The Compact was named the most powerful student initiative in the nation this year by the American Association of School Administrators and earned a Magna Award from the American School Board Journal.

I am proud of the accomplishments of the students participating in the Compact, and I urge support of their funding request.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. ROSABEL SIMMONS

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Rosabel Simmons, an outstanding individual who has devoted her life to her family and to serving the community. Mrs. Simmons will be celebrating her 100th birthday in the company of her family and friends on Thursday, in my congressional district in the Bronx.

Rosabel Simmons, known as Rose, was born on September 30, 1904, to York and Malsie Simmons on Wadmalaw Island, South Carolina. She was the youngest of seven children and received her formal education on the Island. She married John Simmons of Edisto Island, South Carolina, and they raised a total of nine children.

Rose followed John to New York with two of their children in 1925. They resided at various locations in Harlem and the Bronx until they finally settled in Bronx County. She worked in the hotel industry and was a union member. After her retirement, she opened a retail establishment that she owned with her husband on Union Avenue in the Bronx.

Rose is a strong advocate of education and sent all of her children to local public schools from elementary school through college. Never one to sit on the sidelines when it came to her children and grandchildren, Rose converted from the Methodist Church to the Catholic Church to support her grandchildren when they entered the Catholic school system. She always insisted on raising the bar of excellence and held each of her children and grandchildren to the same high standard.

This affectionate, tenacious woman serves as the matriarch of her family. She is frequently consulted by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren for advice, guidance and reassurance. Rose attributes her longevity to her father's genes; York Simmons lived to be 114 years of age, and one of her older sisters, Jistine Simmons Matthews, lived to be 110 years of age. Both resided in Charleston, South Carolina.

Her motto is very simple: When you reach the tender age of 100 years, life becomes very simple. Good food, a good John Wayne or Clint Eastwood movie and continuing civic responsibility. For her birthday gift she asked "everyone eligible to vote to make it to their polling station and vote."

Rose has seen many elections and believes voting is a right which we must exercise, if we are to maintain the privilege, a privilege she is

determined will pass on to her great, great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that one of Rose's granddaughters, Mrs. Cheryl Simmons-Oliver, is my district office director and has worked for me for more than 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and the family of Mrs. Rosabel Simmons in wishing her a very happy 100th birthday.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING TODD SKINNER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Todd Skinner was a participant in the "King Pumpkin" contest; and

Whereas, Todd Skinner harvested a pumpkin weighing 909 pounds and was deemed worthy of being named king in the 41st Annual Pumpkin Festival in Barnesville; and

Whereas, Todd Skinner should be commended for his efforts and diligence in providing nourishment to the pumpkin keeping it healthy in preparation for the event.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in honoring and congratulating Todd Skinner for his outstanding accomplishment.

HONORING ROCKBROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S AMERICAN SPIRIT TOWARD THE VICTIMS OF THE BESLAN SCHOOL TRAGEDY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to say thank you to one of my hometown schools, Rockbrook Elementary School located in Lewisville, Texas. The students of Rockbrook enthusiastically participated in a card giving program for the victims of the Beslan school tragedy.

Before departing for my mission to Russia, I asked several local schools if they would like to create, draw, color or write greeting cards to the survivors and grieving families. The response was overwhelming. I was honored to be able to present hundreds of colorful cards to patients and families.

During my time in Russia, I had the opportunity to visit survivors recuperating at two hospitals. The visits were moving and tearful, but you could see the hearts of American students truly shining in the eyes of the Russian children. I was truly privileged to represent the United States, and especially grateful to be able to share wonderful cards full of encouragement and joy.

Again, thank you, the students of Rockbrook Elementary for your kindness and thoughtfulness. Your words strongly conveyed the spirit of the American people and our commitment to build relations with countries dedicated to combating global terrorism.

HONORING THE LAND DONATION
OF THE CAMPBELL AND WILLS
FAMILY TO MEMORIALIZE
SARAH PEARSON CAMPBELL

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the friends and family of Sarah Pearson Campbell, who recently donated fifty acres of land to the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

With this being the last week of September and there being only five weeks before a very influential election that includes a race for the second congressional district of Idaho, as well as a presidential race, I often find myself with too few hours in my day to accomplish everything that I want to do. But when I was recently made aware of a land donation that had been given to the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, I felt obligated to say thank you to the families that made the donation possible.

Doug and Mary Campbell, along with the families of Wes, Bob and Hank Wills recently donated a 50 acre parcel of land in the heart of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. The land is located within the heart of Boulder City—a present day ghost town that was once a promising mining town in the heart of Idaho's Boulder Mountain range.

Historic Boulder City is located north of Ketchum, a rugged and steep six-mile track from Highway 75 up Boulder Creek to the Basin. The city was the second town established in the Wood River Valley and was once home to a store, hotel, post office, corral, saloon, cabins, an ore processing mill and various mines. The land donated contains the remains of the mill, four cabins and other mining structures.

The gift was given to pay tribute and honor the Campbell's daughter Sarah Pearson Campbell, who was killed in an avalanche in December 2000 while back country skiing in Teton County, Wyoming. "By donating this historic site, we will be honoring Sarah's commitment to protecting the beauty and integrity of the area," said Doug and Mary Campbell. "This parcel of land is symbolic of Sarah's work and experiences in, and love for, the mountains here in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area."

Words such as these make me proud to be both an Idahoan and American. I have the utmost respect and gratitude for these families, who are willing to carry on the legacy of their daughter and friend through a donation they know would have made her very proud. Although Sarah is no longer able to share in the scenic beauty of the SNRA, her friends and family wanted to make sure others would be able to experience the same beauty that Sarah came to know and love.

I obviously cannot begin to put into words the sentimental meaning and significance this gift has for the families involved; that is something one would have to ask Sarah's family and friends about. But I can tell you this is only the third land donation to the SNRA since its establishment in 1972, and is critical in helping the US Forest Service preserve an area rich in beauty and history.

I would like to extend a personal thank you to all of those involved with this unselfish and

generous gift to the SNRA. Although I never had the opportunity to meet Sarah, I can only imagine she shared the same ideals and principals that her family and friends displayed when donating this substantial piece of land.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF CHESTNUT
HILL HOSPITAL'S FIRST HUN-
DRED YEARS

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the outstanding achievements of Chestnut Hill Hospital's first hundred years.

Since its inception on October 1, 1904, Chestnut Hill Hospital has provided attentive and extraordinary care to its patients. Beginning as a facility in twin houses on Gravers Lane, the Hospital originally consisted of two wards, five private rooms, one operating room and one reception room. The support of the dedicated community allowed for the Hospital to treat over 275 patients in the first few months of the facility's existence. Over the past 100 years, the Hospital has grown by leaps and bounds with the latest technology and has continued to treat the families of Northwest Philadelphia and Eastern Montgomery County with the most compassionate of care. The remarkable people who have seen the Hospital through events such as the World Wars, the Depression and the Philadelphia Flu Epidemic also deserve recognition as fundamental to the Hospital's success.

Though Chestnut Hill Hospital's second century begins with new owner, the University of Pennsylvania Health System and Vanguard Health Systems, the Hospital will undoubtedly continue the kind and dedicated care that has become its trademark. I congratulate Chestnut Hill Hospital on 100 years of excellent service to the community.

HONORING LEWISVILLE HIGH
SCHOOL NORTH'S AMERICAN
SPIRIT TOWARD VICTIMS OF THE
BESLAN SCHOOL TRAGEDY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to say thank you to one of my hometown schools, Lewisville High School North located in Lewisville, Texas. The students of Lewisville High School North enthusiastically participated in a card giving program for the victims of the Beslan school tragedy.

Before departing for my mission to Russia, I asked several local schools if they would like to create, draw, color or write greeting cards to the survivors and grieving families. The response was overwhelming. I was honored to be able to present hundreds of colorful cards to patients and families.

During my time in Russia, I had the opportunity to visit survivors recuperating at two hospitals. The visits were moving and tearful, but you could see the hearts of American stu-

dents truly shining in the eyes of the Russian children. I was truly privileged to represent the United States, and especially grateful to be able to share wonderful cards full of encouragement and joy.

Again, thank you, the students of Lewisville High School North and to Sasha Watson for the fifty personalized cards containing Russian phrases and for your kindheartedness and thoughtfulness. Your words strongly conveyed the spirit of the American people and our commitment to build relations with countries dedicated to combating global terrorism.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN
HARDARDT

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to John Hardardt, a truly dedicated public servant from Durango, Colorado. John has been a devoted champion of veterans issues, and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his tremendous service to helping America's veterans before this body of Congress.

John served in the Army for fourteen years and fought in the Vietnam War. Since then, he has undergone more than forty surgeries in VA hospitals as a result of combat related injuries. As La Plata County's first Veteran's Service Officer, John was instrumental in expanding VA services to the rural area. He led a five year struggle to bring a VA clinic to the city of Durango, Colorado, and managed to obtain the necessary funds to purchase vans for transporting veterans in need of medical attention. After serving so effectively in Durango, John has recently accepted a promotion and will be continuing his work in Long Beach, California.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Veterans Service Officer John Hardardt for his service to this country, and his dedication to the heroes of our armed services. John man is a great patriot, and it is a pleasure to recognize him today before this body of Congress and this Nation. Thank you, John, for everything you have done for the veterans of La Plata County. Congratulations on your promotion, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

GARY LEE "DEUCE" STALEY

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during the 2004 Fallen Fire Heroes Memorial Weekend, our nation will come together to honor the 107 firefighters who perished in the line of duty last year. Regretfully, eight Texas firefighters lost their lives, two of whom are from the 8th Congressional District.

We are not here to mourn the loss as much as we are here to celebrate the lives of these dedicated heroes that serve selflessly in the worst of conditions to keep us safe. We celebrate their commitment, their compassion and

their courage. So many hours of training; days and nights of service; time away from their families and friends; comradery with their brothers; lives and homes saved... it is impossible to put into words our gratitude for these heroes in our lives and our communities.

Gary Lee "Deuce" Staley of the Porter Volunteer Fire Department, will have his name added to the plaques surrounding the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park in Emmitsburg, Maryland, just outside of Washington, D.C. this weekend.

As a member of the Porter Volunteer Fire Department, Deuce died serving the community that he loved and will always be remembered for his heroism and sacrifice.

In January 2003, Deuce was responding to a fire at an antique car showroom. While attempting to lead three stranded firefighters out of the blaze and to safety, a car filled with nitrous oxide exploded, killing Staley instantly.

Firefighters represent the best our community has to offer. We honor them today, not only for their final act of bravery but for the lives they led. A firefighter's work can some times be thankless, but of all the men and women I've met, meet challenge and the danger without complaints and without regret. Their lives provided hope and comfort to victims of horrible events that we pray never come to us or the ones we love.

This remembrance service is as much a celebration of their lives and their ideals as it is a time to reflect on what we have lost. Firefighters remind us that heroes are every day people who decide to devote their lives and work to something greater than themselves.

Today we are here to honor Gary Staley and his brothers, the 106 nationwide who've sacrificed so much. With the start of a new day, we honor the families and friends they've left behind. Mr. Speaker, our prayers are always with them. Together as a community and a nation, we say thank you to those who will stand in the place of those who have fallen and will continue to faithfully serve and protect.

UKRAINE-U.S. RELATIONS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit the following article for the RECORD.

COMMENT: UKRAINE-U.S. RELATIONS HINGE ON FALL ELECTIONS

(By Richard Holbrooke, Jan Kalicki and Mark Brzezinski)

SEPT. 27.—Americans are increasingly focused on our pivotal presidential choice on Nov. 2. But many may not be aware that partway around the world, at the doorstep of an expanded Europe, the citizens of Ukraine will be making an important choice in their Oct. 31 elections for president.

Ukrainians will decide whether a pro-Western reformer, Viktor Yushchenko, or a pro-Russian statist, Viktor Yanukovich, will be elected. That choice is theirs and theirs alone to make. But friends of Ukraine can certainly express concern about issues at stake. The first issue is the freedom and fairness of the election process—to ensure that the power of the incumbent president, who cannot run again, is not mobilized to suppress open debate and unfettered choice.

There is reason for concern, because oligarchic interests will likely try to stack the political deck, and to protect ill-gotten gains from past and pending privatizations.

The second issue affects the United States even more directly, for Ukrainians will decide whether to support those who favor integration into NATO and the European Union, or those who favor realignment with Russia and Belarus, the latter already under the sway of an unsavory dictator.

After meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin last month, Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma amended his government's national security doctrine to turn away from NATO and the EU. The impact was felt immediately: Instead of continuing to plan to transport Caspian oil from the Black Sea to central Europe and eventually the Baltic, Kuchma now plans to transport Russian oil to the Black Sea and further congest the environmentally sensitive Turkish Straits.

Both the EU and the Turkish government have expressed deep concern about this development. But the Bush administration has been largely silent.

Our European and Turkish allies recognize the stakes. Will a country of 48 million people, almost the size of Texas, have the opportunity to pursue a common destiny with its neighbors to the north and west? Or will Ukraine take a course in which new lines could be drawn across post-Cold War Europe? Will energy flows continue to be subject to control by Russian monopolies, or will they reach markets competitively and support the freedom of Ukraine and the Caspian states?

Strategically located between a newly assertive Russia and an expanded NATO and EU, Ukraine can be a bridge to increased cooperation between these two realms. Or it can create new grounds for division. What remains to be seen is whether this pivotal European country will take the path of reform or the path of increased state control. This decision will impact a similar drama being played out between reformers and statist across the vast expanse of Russia itself. The most important interest here is to create durable political, economic and security ties engaging the Euro-Atlantic community with both Russia and Ukraine.

Americans can make clear where we stand: with those in Ukraine supporting free and democratic choice. With our European allies, we can make clear that EU and NATO doors are open if Ukrainians choose the path of integration and reform. But this brings us back to our own elections in November. There is one candidate who believes in democratic action, rather than ideology, and favors making common cause with our allies. There is another who has failed to do so, to the great detriment of America's vital national security interests. The stakes in the United States, as in Ukraine, could not be higher.

HONORING SANGER MIDDLE SCHOOL'S AMERICAN SPIRIT TOWARD THE VICTIMS OF THE BESLAN SCHOOL TRAGEDY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to say thank you to one of my hometown schools, Sanger Middle School in Sanger, Texas. The students of Sanger Middle School enthusiastically participated in a card giving program for the victims of the Beslan school tragedy.

Before departing for my mission to Russia, I asked several local schools if they would like to create, draw, color or write greeting cards to the survivors and grieving families. The response was overwhelming. I was honored to be able to present hundreds of colorful cards to patients and families.

During my time in Russia, I had the opportunity to visit survivors recuperating at two hospitals. The visits were moving and tearful, but you could see the hearts of American students truly shining in the eyes of the Russian children. I was truly privileged to represent the United States, and especially grateful to be able to share wonderful cards full of encouragement and joy.

Again, thank you, the students of Sanger Middle School for your kindheartedness and thoughtfulness. Your words strongly conveyed the spirit of the American people and our commitment to build relations with countries dedicated to combating global terrorism.

ACKNOWLEDGING CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BY MARGIE GILBERT AND DR. JULIE CANEPA

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, one of the biggest challenges for this Congress over the past 2 years has been to fulfill our responsibilities on homeland security. At the beginning of this Congress, the Speaker decided to create a Select Committee on Homeland Security to help get the new Department of Homeland Security off to a good start and to focus congressional efforts on the many issues related to helping to protect our citizens against terrorism.

Beginning a new committee on such a complex topic would never be easy. Doing so within a very limited time was even more difficult. We had to have help, and to the good fortune of the House and of the country, we got help from some exceptional people.

I want to take a moment to acknowledge the contributions of two of them whose tour of duty on Capitol Hill is ending and to thank them for all they have done for me, as a subcommittee chairman on the Select Committee, and for the entire Committee. Working with my Legislative Director, Kim Kotlar, these two individuals have made enormous contributions to the development of the new Department of Homeland Security and its vital mission.

Our subcommittee has had responsibility for cybersecurity and for science and technology. To advise us on cybersecurity, we have had the assistance of Margie Gilbert. Margie was previously assigned to the White House as a director in the Office of Cyberspace Security, supporting both the National Security Council and the Office of Homeland Security. She dealt with intelligence and domestic protection, particularly national-level incident handling and counterterrorism. Throughout her DOD career, she has worked as an intelligence liaison officer, foreign relations officer, collection systems project leader, contracts and budget manager, and supervisor of a microelectronics research organization. She completed international

business studies at University of Copenhagen, has a bachelors degree in computer science from the University of Tennessee, and a masters degree in technical management from Johns Hopkins University.

I soon discovered that, in addition to her warm and engaging personality, Margie has earned enormous respect from those most involved in and most knowledgeable about cybersecurity issues. Success in cybersecurity requires a unique partnership of government and industry, and Margie has done a great deal to promote that relationship so necessary for success. She has guided the subcommittee to the issues that matter most. Her deep understanding of the issues and of the limitations of some proposed solutions, as well as her personal touch, have benefited all who have worked with her, inside and outside of government.

Dr. Julie Canepa has advised the committee on technology issues. Julie is a scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory. She has a BS in chemistry from Saint Mary's College in Indiana and her Ph.D. in chemistry is from Arizona State University. Among the many jobs she has had at Los Alamos are Program Manager for Environmental Restoration Project and Program Manager for the Los Alamos work with the Yucca Mountain Project. She has published a number of articles.

Protecting the American homeland requires the research, development, and utilization of technologies. This part of the Department of Homeland Security is totally new, and Julie has helped get it off on the right foot. The range of technologies and issues associated with them is enormous. From communications interoperability to radiological detection to vaccines and antidotes, Julie has had to understand not only the technology, but also the government and industry processes which could bring those technologies into use. In addition to her enormous gifts of intellect, she also has a special talent for helping others, who may not have her breath and depth of understanding and knowledge, feel comfortable with very complex subject matter.

I recognize that Federal agencies have a difficult time allowing significant numbers of employees work in other agencies or in other branches of government. However, I believe more strongly than ever that our country is well served when those who have a particular expertise and perspective are allowed to share that with the legislative branch. In the situation of this subcommittee with so much to learn about very technical subjects, I simply do not know what the committee or I would have done without the benefit of these two exceptional public servants.

The last 2 years have seen much progress and some frustrations in homeland security. We clearly have much left to do. But with the continued work of dedicated, talented professionals like Margie Gilbert and Julie Canepa, we will be successful. And I have no doubt that these two outstanding individuals will continue to contribute to the security of the country in many ways and for many years to come.

HARD TIMES

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, times are hard, and this Republican Congress and the White House are oblivious to it.

Middle class families are being squeezed from every direction. And what have Republicans done about it? Nothing.

Before President Bush took office, 22 million new jobs had been created. Since then, over 1.7 million jobs have been lost.

Instead of creating new jobs, Republicans gave tax cuts to companies that send jobs overseas.

When President Bush took office, the number of uninsured Americans had dropped for the first time in 12 years. Now, 45 million Americans cannot afford to get sick because they have no health insurance.

Four years ago, we had a \$236 billion budget surplus. Now, thanks to tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, the national credit card is maxed out.

Meanwhile, over a thousand Americans have died in Iraq.

American families be warned, if the White House doesn't send your jobs overseas, they'll send your kids.

HONORING BLACKIE BLACK OF BAGDAD BUILDERS INCORPORATED

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Blackie Black, and to thank him for patriotically helping our wounded war heroes who are returning home to their communities.

The strength of America lies in the hearts and souls of our citizens. All across our country, people are donating their time and talents to improving lives and strengthening communities. We have a shining example of this in our very own backyard of Santa Rosa County.

The most recent acts of kindness by Northwest Floridians have had a profound effect on people's lives and on the future of our country. They once again are going beyond meeting the essential needs in the communities, knowing the fulfillment that only comes from serving a cause greater than self. Many volunteers got started in the same way: because someone asked them. In our community that someone was Blackie Black of Bagdad Builders Incorporated.

Blackie is constructing the 3,400-square-foot home in Clear Creek near Allentown, Florida for medically retired Army Staff Sergeant Dustin Tuller. Staff Sergeant Tuller came to Bagdad Builders to build his home, however it was County Commissioner Don Salter who sought donations from the community to pay for the home. Commissioner Salter rallied the local community to get involved and numerous contractors came on board to help complete the construction with such goods and services as free labor, insulation from Coastal Insula-

tion, materials from Home Depot, free termite treatment donated by Terminix, free heating and air conditioning, and the list continues to grow.

Blackie Black is a native Northwest Floridian, born in Milton. He and his wife Bonnie own and operate Bagdad Builders and have been involved in giving back to the community for years. He belongs to a religious builders group, which travels the globe building homes for disadvantaged people and churches for communities. He has been doing this for years, but now the dedicated, caring, Santa Rosa County resident is giving back to his neighbor who fought bravely for the freedom of the Iraqis.

Recently, Dustin was asked in an interview, "Do you think other communities can do this as well?" Dustin responded, "That's not the question. Will they? Not can they, but will they?"

America is a compassionate and generous land. With their good works, volunteers are showing the heart and soul of our people, which is the greatest strength of our nation.

In keeping with Commissioner Salter's motto, "We take care of our own in Santa Rosa County." Dustin, Alisha, Dillyn, Zachery, Dammyn, and Lexi will always be grateful for the financial assistance and support the community and you have so generously given.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Blackie Black for the example he has set in his community. I offer my sincere thanks for all that he has done for Northwest Florida and this great nation.

THE HONORABLE SANDRA S. BECKWITH BECOMES FIRST WOMAN CHIEF JUDGE OF THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Sandra S. Beckwith, who on Monday, October 4, 2004 will become the first woman to hold the position of chief judge for the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Ohio.

Landmark achievements are nothing new for Judge Beckwith. Born on a military base in Norfolk, Virginia while her father served in the United States Navy, she grew up in Cincinnati hoping to follow in the footsteps of her grandfather, Reed A. Shank, who was the physician for the Cincinnati Reds, Cincinnati Bengals and the University of Cincinnati athletic teams. After beginning in the pre-med program at the University of Cincinnati, Judge Beckwith later changed to pre-law at the suggestion of her father.

Judge Beckwith graduated from the University of Cincinnati's William Howard Taft College of Law with honors and received the Betty Kuhn Memorial Prize for the top woman graduate. She started practicing law in Harrison, Ohio with her father, Charles L. Shank. In 1977, she began a series of career milestones as she was appointed, and later elected, as the first woman to serve on the Hamilton County Municipal Court. Judge Beckwith has been the first woman elected to the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, Division

of Domestic Relations; appointed to the Hamilton County, Ohio Board of Commissioners (and the first woman elected Chairman by her fellow Commissioners); and the first woman elected to the Hamilton County Commissioners. While serving as a Hamilton County Commissioner, Judge Beckwith practiced law with the respected Cincinnati firm of Graydon Head & Ritchey.

A leader on the critical issues of domestic violence, child support and family law, Judge Beckwith serves on the board of Tender Mercies and the Cincinnati Red Cross and chairs the board of the Collaborative Law Center. Previously, she served on the boards of United Way of Cincinnati; Great Rivers Girl Scouts Council, and remains an ex-officio member of the University of Cincinnati College of Law Board of Visitors.

All of us in the Cincinnati area congratulate Judge Beckwith on this prestigious honor. We look forward to her continued leadership.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF STANDISH

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in my district that is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a city. This weekend, I will join the residents of Standish, Michigan as they mark this great milestone.

The land that is now Standish was originally surveyed and mapped in 1871 by P.M. Angus, who had to travel there on foot since the railroad had not yet been extended to the area. Mr. Angus was hired by John D. Standish, who owned most of the land, and whose saw mill was the first industry in the new settlement. The first official name of the settlement was Granton, but in 1884, the Village of Granton changed its name to the Village of Standish.

The same year that Standish was founded, the community built its first school, and the railroad was eventually extended to the area. The residents of Standish have a strong sense of their history, and the current Standish Elementary School stands at the same location as that original school. Also, the original railroad depot for the town is still in use, thanks to the local fundraising and restoration efforts of the community.

In 1904, Standish was first incorporated as a city. Over the following years and decades, the community grew and marked a series of firsts along with the rest of our nation. By 1938, it had 913 residents, and today its population is 2,091. The first cars came in 1907 with the arrival of a Buick dealership. Next came commercial electricity, speed limits, the first Prohibition arrests, battery operated radios, and city water and trash removal services. The story of growth and development in Standish is the story of small town America.

Mr. Speaker, I said that Standish is a warm community, and I can personally attest to that. The city was part of the area added to my dis-

trict after the 2000 census, and I held a town hall meeting at Standish-Sterling High School in February of 2003 in order to get to know my new constituents. I was impressed by their thoughtful questions and touched by their welcome to me as their new Representative. I was, and continue to be, very proud to represent this fine community in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the City of Standish and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF WILLIAM "COUNT" BASIE AND ACKNOWLEDGING HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO JAZZ AND SWING MUSIC

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to join with my colleagues in paying tribute to one of the most adored musical treasures of our time, the legendary William "Count" Basie.

Though we lost the late Great Count Basie in 1984 at the age of 79, his melodious spirit and rhythmic style will never be forgotten.

It is said of Count Basie, that he was one of the pre-eminent bandleaders of the Big Band era in the 1930's and 40's. Dubbed the "Master of Swing" because of the flowing intensity of his music, Count Basie was known for his provocative keyboard style characterized by a predominant right hand, which produced quite a distinctive sound.

Among his band's best known tunes was "One O'Clock Jump," "Jumpin' at the Woodside," "Li'l Darlin'," and "April in Paris." With the Count on Piano and band member Freddie Green on guitar, American jazz would never be the same.

Though he was born in Red Bank, New Jersey, Count Basie would call New York City home when he moved there in 1924 and became acquainted with Harlem and the talents of Fats Waller. He and Fats became friends almost immediately and Fats would end up teaching him to play the organ.

Count Basie began his professional career as an accompanist on the vaudeville circuit, and in 1935, became the leader of a nine-piece band. It was while he was with this band performing in Kansas City, that a radio announcer nicknamed him "Count" because he wanted to indicate his standing in a class with aristocrats of jazz such as Duke Ellington.

Though rooted in the style of the 1930s swing-era big bands, the Basie orchestra played with the vigorous drive and carefree swing of a small combo, and was considered a model for ensemble musical conception.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of William "Count" Basie and his numerous contributions to jazz and swing music.

IN SUPPORT OF THE DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS FAIRNESS AND SECURITY ACT OF 2004

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the House's attention to the Direct Support Professionals Fairness and Security Act of 2004. This act was introduced today by myself and Representative Lois Capps. The Act provides temporary assistance to states who choose to participate to achieve pay parity between private and public direct support professionals who are essential components of our nation's formal long-term support system for individuals with disabilities.

There are more than 54 million Americans with disabilities, 8 million of whom have mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. Nearly fourteen million require long-term supports and services. These supports include assistance to meet the individual's personal care and hygiene, habilitation, transportation, employment, meal preparation, housekeeping, and other home management needs—supports many of us often take for granted.

The workers who provide services to the individuals with disabilities are known by many job titles—but one thing in common is shared by all of them. They are the hands, voice and face of long-term supports and the human relationship established between the individual and the worker is at the core of our nation's formal long-term supports system. Many are women and the sole income earners for their families. Although providing an essential service to humanity, many of them remain impoverished due to low wages that have not kept pace with those of other industries. Turnover rates for these dedicated workers range between 40 and 100 percent. This has caused a retention and recruitment crisis that threatens our ability to provide adequate supports to people with disabilities of all ages. Further, with such rampant turnover, many of the individuals with disabilities must face new, unfamiliar faces for their daily assistance and lose the support of those upon whom they have come to rely.

The Direct Support Professionals Fairness and Security Act of 2004 provides up to five years of temporary assistance in the form of increased Medicaid dollars to states who choose to participate. Participating states will direct these desperately needed funds directly to increase the wages of private direct support professionals providing essential daily supports to individuals with disabilities. States will have the incentive they need to create parity between public and nonprofit workers providing the same essential services.

I ask my House colleagues to join me in support of the Direct Support Professionals Fairness and Security Act of 2004.

PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY CELEBRATES
80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a legend as she celebrates her 80th birthday.

Phyllis Schlafly has been a national leader of the conservative movement since the publication of her best-selling 1964 book, *A Choice Not An Echo*.

Mrs. Schlafly worked shoulder to shoulder with other conservatives to create a movement. In 1972 she started a pro-family organization based on the values she knew that Americans shared with her, and helped America regain its moral footing.

For the next three decades her work helped guide young conservatives, and to this day, the organization she created, the Eagle Forum, continues to fight for conservative ideals.

This year the Phyllis Schlafly Report begins its 36th year, her syndicated column appears in 100 newspapers, and her radio commentaries are heard daily on 460 stations across the nation.

And, what I know she'd consider one of her crowning achievements, Mrs. Schlafly raised six children and was named Illinois "Mother of the Year" in 1992.

President Ronald Reagan said it best when referring to Phyllis Schlafly's work as "an example to all those who would struggle for an America that is prosperous and free."

Mrs. Schlafly serves as an inspiration to all of us who work to preserve our important American values—family, faith, and freedom.

THE TIME HAS COME FOR INDIA TO LIVE UP TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently, Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh spoke to the General Assembly of the United Nations. He was met with protests from Sikhs, Muslims, and other protesters.

Although Dr. Singh is a fine economist, his speech masked the reality of life in India. He spoke out against terrorism but he failed to note that India has inflicted a reign of terror on its people while sponsoring terrorism in the Pakistani province of Sindh, according to the January 2, 2002 issue of the *Washington Times*. He spoke of cooperation against poverty, ignoring the fact that 40 percent of the people in his country live on less than \$2 per day and farmers in Punjab are forced to accept prices for their crops that provide them with a less than subsistence wage, forcing them to go deeply in debt to stay alive. He spoke of eliminating weapons of mass destruction but India started the nuclear competition in South Asia. He spoke of democracy while basic human rights are being violated. Over 52,000 Sikhs and tens of thousands of other minorities languish in Indian prisons as

political prisoners. India has killed over 250,000 Sikhs, over 89,000 Kashmiris, over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, and tens of thousands of other minorities. Yet India continues to proclaim its democratic principles.

The irony is that India seeks a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. How can it be on the Security Council when it cannot live up to the most basic principles of freedom?

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the United States to take action. We must cut off our aid to India until it lets all people within its artificial borders be free. We must go on record in support of self-determination for the people of Kashmir, as India promised in 1948, and for all the other peoples seeking freedom, such as the Sikhs of Khalistan and the Christians of Nagaland, among others.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan issued an excellent and informative press release on the protests against Dr. Singh. I am inserting it into the RECORD now for the information of my colleagues.

[From the Council of Khalistan, September 29, 2004]

INDIA MUST LIVE BY PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY—SEEKS UN SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT BUT VIOLATES PRINCIPLES IT PROCLAIMS

As Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh spoke to the United Nations General Assembly, Sikhs, Kashmiri Muslims, and other oppressed minorities of South Asia gathered at the United Nations Building in New York to protest his appearance. They demanded the immediate release of all political prisoners, the firing of Cabinet ministers who were involved in genocide against Sikhs, Muslims, Christians, and other minorities, and sovereignty for the peoples and nations of South Asia.

"If India seeks to be a permanent member of the Security Council, it must learn to practice the principles of democracy," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, which leads the Sikh struggle for freedom. "In 1948, India demanded a free and fair plebiscite in Kashmir. That plebiscite has never been held," he said. "Similarly, India must grant self-determination to Khalistan, Nagaland, and the other countries seeking their independence," he said.

While Prime Minister Singh spoke of "a world in which a free people could together pursue a destiny of shared prosperity," the farmers of Punjab are forced to accept less than subsistence prices for their crops. Half the population of India lives below the international poverty line. Dr. Singh spoke of a global coalition against terrorism, but his government gives only lip service to the War on Terror. India sponsors cross-border terrorism in Sindh, according to the *Washington Times* of January 2, 2002. Although he spoke against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, it was India that began the nuclear competition in South Asia. Dr. Singh spoke of "democracy as an instrument for achieving both peace and prosperity," yet India denies the most basic of democratic freedoms to the Sikhs and other minorities living within its borders.

India has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, according to figures compiled by the Punjab State Magistracy and human-rights groups and reported in the book *The Politics of Genocide* by Inderjeet Singh Jaijee. It has also killed more than 89,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, and thousands of Christians and Muslims elsewhere in the country, as well as tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits ("Untouchables," the dark-

skinned aboriginal people of South Asia), Manipuris, Tamils, and other minorities. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide."

According to a report by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial. Some have been in illegal custody since 1984! Amnesty International reported that tens of thousands of other minorities are also being held as political prisoners. We demand the immediate release of all these political prisoners.

Recently, another church was burned in India. This is part of a pattern of violence against Christians that has been going on since Christmas 1998 with the approval of the Indian government. Nuns have been raped, priests have been murdered, prayer halls and schools have been vandalized. A Christian religious festival was broken up by police gunfire.

Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalsa after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. He was murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family.

"Although Sikhs gave 80 percent of the sacrifices for India's independence, India has massacred Sikhs since achieving independence," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, naming its new country Khalistan.

"Only a sovereign, independent Khalistan will end the repression and lift the standard of living for the people of Punjab," Dr. Aulakh said. "Democracies don't commit genocide."

History shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. Countries like Austria-Hungary, India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is not one country, it is a polyglot like those countries, thrown together for the convenience of the British colonialists. It is doomed to break up as they did. Recently, the Punjab Legislative Assembly passed a bill annulling all water agreements with the Indian government, preventing the government's daylight robbery of Punjab river water. Punjab needs its river water for its crops. In the bill, the Assembly explicitly stated the sovereignty of Punjab.

"As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, said, 'if a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh,'" Dr. Aulakh noted. "We must continue to press for our God-given birthright of freedom," he said. "Without political power, religions cannot flourish and nations perish. India claims to be a democracy. It is time it recognized the right of self-determination for all people in South Asia."

INTRODUCTION OF MILITARY FAMILIES LEAVE ACT

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Military Families Leave Act, a bill that will take a small step to help ease the burden of military families in this country.

Nearly everyday we hear stories about the hardships of the families of our nation's soldiers. Family members of deployed soldiers

face unique challenges, especially in the first days and weeks after the member has been summoned to duty. The National Military Family Association has testified that it hears from many families about the difficulties of balancing new family and personal requirements with their regular duties when a family member is deployed. As members of Congress, we too hear from constituents who struggle with this balance. I believe there are measures we can take to ease this burden and increase flexibility in the lives of our military family members.

The legislation I am introducing today is one of the steps we can take in that direction. The Military Families Leave Act allows spouses, parents, or children of military personnel who are serving on, or are called to active duty, in support of a contingency operation to use their Family and Medical Leave Act benefits for issues directly related to deployment. The bill does not extend the FMLA to anyone; it simply allows those who already qualify for the FMLA to use that benefit in new specific instances. For example, if a woman's husband is deployed for a contingency operation, she can use her FMLA benefit to secure power of attorney or to arrange for necessary childcare. Or, in a single parent situation, the mother or father of the deployed servicemember could use his or her FMLA benefit to care for a grandchild. This bill has been carefully drafted to stipulate that this leave could only be taken for issues directly relating to or resulting from the deployment of a family member.

This bill is a companion to a bill introduced by Senator Russ Feingold S.683. That bill was passed by unanimous consent in the Senate as an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2004 Iraq Supplemental Appropriations bill, but it was unfortunately subsequently stripped in conference. However, this bill continues to have widespread support from military reserve, active duty, and military family organizations.

I would like to submit for the record support letters from the Reserve Enlisted Association, the National Military Family Association, and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States. Others who support this bill are the Military Officers Association of America, the National Guard Association of the United States, and the Reserve Officers Association.

The time is ripe to show our military families that we are listening to their concerns. The Military Families Leave Act represents a small measure of relief for the families of the men and women who serve in our armed forces. I ask that my colleagues join me in assisting our military families by supporting this bill.

NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY
ASSOCIATION,
Sept. 14, 2004.

Hon. TOM UDALL,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE UDALL: The National Military Family Association, NMFA, is a national nonprofit membership organization whose sole focus is the military family. NMFA's mission is to serve the families of the seven uniformed services through education, information and advocacy.

On behalf of NMFA and the families it serves, I would like to thank you for introducing legislation to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to provide entitlement to leave to eligible employees whose spouse, son, daughter, or parent is a member

of the Armed Forces serving on active duty in support of a contingency operation or notified of an impending call or order to active duty in support of a contingency operation.

NMFA has heard from many families about the difficulty of balancing family obligations with job requirements when a close family member is deployed. Suddenly, they are single parents or, in the case of grandparents, assuming the new responsibility of caring for grandchildren. The days leading up to a deployment can be filled with pre-deployment briefings and putting legal affairs in order. Families also need the opportunity to spend precious time together prior to a long separation. The need is no less when the servicemember returns. Reintegration and transition requires training not only for the servicemember but for the family as well in order to be most effective.

Military families, especially those of deployed servicemembers, are called upon to make extraordinary sacrifices. Thus amendment offers families some breathing room as they adjust to this time of separation.

Thank you for your support and interest in military families. If NMFA can be of any assistance to you in other areas concerning military families, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,
CANDACE A. WHEELER,
President.

EANGUS,
Sept. 16, 2004.

Hon. TOM UDALL,
U.S. Congress,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN UDALL: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) would like to thank you, on behalf of the enlisted men and women of the Army and Air National Guard, for drafting the Military Families Leave Act of 2004.

Families of mobilized National Guard and Reserve members, as well as the families of deployed active duty service members, experience many hardships. Your bill will help alleviate some of the stress involved when, a principal family member is deployed. Allowing the use of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 for those family members can greatly assist during a difficult time.

Thank you so much for recognizing one of the many deeds of the military community. EANGUS will support the Military Families Leave Act in any way possible. If there is anything we can, do to assist, please let us know.

If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to ask.

Working for America's Best!
MSG (RET.) MICHAEL P. CLINE, AUS,
Executive Director.

RESERVE ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
AND RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,
Sept. 29, 2004.

Hon. TOM UDALL,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE UDALL: The Reserve Officers Association, representing 75,000 Reserve Component members, and the Reserve Enlisted Association supporting all Reserve enlisted members supports your bill, to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act to provide authority for Reserve Component family members to take leave in conjunction with a call-up.

The Guard and Reserve are contributing approximately 40 percent of the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and are gone from home for the longest period of time ever anticipated. Many families are faced with hav-

ing to accommodate this absence with often less than 30 days notice and it requires a considerable amount of time to make the necessary adjustments. Family members supporting a spouse, son, daughter or parent that is serving on active duty, should not have to also be afraid of losing their job.

The bill recognizes many of the problems encountered in the current mobilization and provide solutions. We are stunned and appreciative of all of the co-sponsors who have supported this generous but necessary measure. ROA and REA applaud your effort and concern.

Sincerely,
LANI BURNETT,
CMSgt, USAFR (Ret.),
REA Executive Director.
ROBERT A. MCINTOSH,
Major General (Ret.), USAFR,
ROA Executive Director.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, and in special recognition of Hispanics in central Ohio and throughout our country.

During this designated month, America celebrates the culture and traditions of our friends and neighbors with Hispanic roots. Hispanics are now the largest minority group in the United States. The 2000 Census found that 35.3 million people identified themselves as Hispanic American. That represents a 58 percent increase from the 1990 Census.

Beyond the data, the reality is that Hispanics are an integral part of America's social fabric. I am proud that the state of Ohio is home to more than 217,000 residents of Hispanic/Latino descent. Hispanic Americans continue to make great strides in education, employment, health, homeownership, and economic mobility. This is a result of a set of values that includes a strong work ethic, family values, and service to community.

Hispanic Americans in central Ohio serve the community in numerous capacities. In particular, recent immigrants unfamiliar with the English language are served by Spanish interpreters who help provide them access to health care, education, legal assistance and other vital services. Mi Directorio Hispana, a business directory, and Spanish newspapers in central Ohio, like La Voz Hispana, connect Hispanics with the community and keep them informed. The Ohio Hispanic Coalition, a nonprofit outreach organization, and the Ohio Commission of Hispanic/Latino Affairs serve as advocates for the needs of Hispanic people and help to promote good relations among the community-at-large.

Mr. Speaker, the Hispanic community is a vital part of central Ohio and our country. As we move forward as a nation, it is important to pursue policies that can further expand opportunities for Hispanic Americans. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in support and in honor of Hispanic Americans, their culture and traditions, and their work and service that contributes to the greatness of this nation.

MARITIME DAY

HON. DAVID VITTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 30 as World Maritime Day. I urge the members of Congress to join me in saluting the hard working men and women of the Merchant Marine.

Each day, mariners perform a vital service in the global economy by ensuring that international trade proceeds without interruption. They work long hours in all kinds of weather. Whether they sail on the storm-tossed waves of the North Atlantic or the tropical heat of the South Pacific, these men and women perform their duties without recognition or fanfare.

Mariners and many others contribute to homeland security, and we must give them the support they need to effectively keep our ports safe. As we recognize Maritime Day, we cannot overlook the human element. Mariners sail for many weeks without being ashore or hearing a loved one's voice on a call home.

We thank the mariners for their continued commitment to keeping us all secure, and we focus our attention on the challenge in their industry of balancing security needs with mariners' need for shore leave. I urge members of Congress to join me in working to reach a solution that provides the utmost in security for ports and harbors around the world while allowing for the personal needs of the men and women who sail these great ships.

I come to the floor of the House of Representatives to salute and honor the men and women of the Merchant Marine on this World Maritime Day.

HONORING LIFE AND WORK OF
DUKE ELLINGTON

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my strong support for H. Con. Res. 501, which honors the life and work of Duke Ellington and recognizes the 30th Anniversary of Duke Ellington School of the Arts. I add further that the Duke Ellington School is where the Washington DC Satirical Group, the theater troupe Hexagon, performs every year to raise funds for local charities. Over the last 17 years many members of Congress have performed in the annual "Congress Goes to Hexagon" Night, organized each year by Skip Maraney, of the National Star Route Mail Contractors Association. Hexagon Inc is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
OFFICER JAMES L. DAVIS**HON. JULIA CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Butler

University Officer James L. Davis of Indianapolis, Indiana, who was tragically shot and killed in the line of duty on September 24th.

On the morning of Friday, September 24th, Officer Davis responded to reports of a suspicious person at the Hinkle Fieldhouse on Butler University campus. While questioning the subject, he was shot and fatally wounded, becoming the first ever Butler University police officer killed in the line of duty. He was 31.

Known as J.J. to his family, James L. Davis graduated from Indiana University in 1995 with degrees in criminal justice and Afro-American studies. He served our country proudly as a military policeman with the United States Army.

Throughout his distinguished record of public service, James Davis displayed an unwavering commitment to the youth of Indianapolis. In 2001, James supervised 96 Juvenile offenders for the Indiana Department of Correction as a youth service officer. From January 2001 to August 2002, he served as a drill instructor for troubled youth with Project Impact, a program that provides counseling, job training, school drop-out prevention, tutoring and mentoring to at-risk first- and second-time youth offenders. After serving as a corporate security officer for Conseco, Inc., James Davis joined the Butler University police force in January of 2003.

During his full-time service on the police force, James continued his education in the pursuit of justice. At the time of his death he was only two months from completing his master's degree, an important step on the way to fulfilling his career goal of becoming a civil rights lawyer. James had also planned to create a charity honoring his late mother.

The admiration of his colleagues speaks volumes to the strength of his character. To the Chief of the Butler Police, James was "probably one of the most genuine people I've ever known." To his Project Impact supervisor, he was "galactic in regards to his love for humanity." In my community, the outpouring of sympathy and grief for this remarkable man has been extraordinary. In the few days since his passing, hundreds have written cards and e-mails to the department honoring our departed neighbor and friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending my deepest condolences to his wife Valeeda, his three beautiful children, Josiah, 8, Jarren, 3, and Jaedyn, 2, his sister Mylandar Davis, and his loving family and friends.

James L. Davis will be deeply missed by all whose lives he touched. The citizens of Indianapolis extend our most sincere appreciation for his personal sacrifice and commitment to public service.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES W.
JOHNSON**HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a wonderful leader of 28 years in my community: Charles W. Johnson.

Charles Johnson is a father, a son, a husband, and most of all a beloved friend.

San Diegans will honor him at the Linda Vista Civic Association meeting on October

21, 2004. His friends, family, and supporters will join together to salute Charles for his selfless and steady dedication to improving our community.

His life is a great American story. It is a classic story of one of the kids that made good.

A retired Navy Master Chief, he graduated high school in Paris, Texas and joined the Navy immediately after.

The Navy brought Charles to San Diego, where he attended San Diego City College and Mesa College.

He is a Linda Vista community activist. He has dedicated countless hours to improving the quality of life for Linda Vista residents.

Charles is a proud founder of the Linda Vista Civic Association and is the immediate past chair.

The Civic Association is a positive force for improving the quality of life for all Linda Vista residents and promoting the involvement of community members of all ages.

They are committed to coordinating, advising, and ensuring that projects operating in the neighborhood do so with collaboration, cooperation, and teamwork, and in a manner consistent with the vision of the Collaborative.

Charles continued his activism as a past chair of the Linda Vista Boys and Girls Club and of the Access Center.

He was a member of the Linda Vista Planning Committee for over six years and the City of San Diego Citizens' Advisory Board on Police-Community Relations.

Charles Johnson was an enthusiastic member of the City of San Diego Redistricting Commission, where he was a strong advocate for his community.

He is an American patriot. He honorably served our country in the military. He continues today as a member of the American Legion and VFW.

I wish to congratulate Charles Johnson for his untiring work on behalf of Linda Vista community.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. BONNIE
ELLIOTT**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Mrs. Bonnie Elliott upon her retirement after 21 years of service to the citizens of the Charter Township of White Lake, Michigan.

For nearly three decades, Bonnie has lived in Michigan's Lower Peninsula, though she has always yearned to return to her Upper Peninsula roots; and, upon her retirement, she will realize her dream of once again living the Upper Peninsula.

Bonnie served as Township Clerk for 16 years before being appointed as White Lake Township Supervisor five years ago. During her tenure, the Township has seen significant growth, becoming an enviable location to live and raise a family.

Through her work as a community activist, and an elected official, Bonnie has been integral to the heart of this growing township. She is a charter member of the White Lake Historical Society and a member of both the White

Lake Goodfellows and St. Patrick's Church. Bonnie devoted time to the renovation of the Dublin Community Senior Center, the development of the Ferdinand C. Vetter Park, the Judy Hawley Park, and improvements to the White Lake Cemetery.

Bonnie and her husband, Charles, should be extremely proud of the indelible mark she has left on the community. We will sorely miss Bonnie, but will continue to benefit from her dedication and leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere appreciation to Mrs. Bonnie Elliott upon her retirement, and thank her for her fine service to our community and our country. I wish Bonnie and Charles the very best on their retirement to Schoolcraft County in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND
TASK FORCE ON MENTORING

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and to express my appreciation to the Montgomery County, Maryland Task Force on Mentoring for the great work they are doing in helping to guide county children and youth to live useful and productive lives. The Task Force on Mentoring, TFM, works 365 days a year to bring mentoring services to all who ask and need such help. The services of the TFM are available to all county residents regardless of age, gender, race, color, religion or cultural background.

The TFM also provides technical services to organizations, communities, and institutions that request assistance in designing, developing and implementing mentor programs. It hosts a major annual breakfast focusing on key issues involving mentoring. This year, on October 7, 2004, at the Rockville campus of Johns Hopkins University, the TFM is sponsoring its 13th annual breakfast highlighting the crisis of anti-social gangs in Montgomery County, and the attempt by some of these gangs to recruit children and youth into their organizations.

The TFM is a community-based umbrella organization aimed at convincing troubled children and youth that they can make plans for a good life with the help of a caring, well trained, dedicated volunteer mentor.

The TFM is the only organization of its kind in the county. It offers assistance, mentor training, volunteer mentor recruitment, organizational and technical support free of charge to more than 60 mentor programs. It helps to implement mentor programs in any public school in Montgomery County that requests such help.

The TFM recently entered into a collaboration and agreement with the Alliance of Concerned Men of the District of Columbia to begin a mentor program for youthful offenders at the Clarksburg youth facility in Clarksburg, Maryland. The first meeting with the youthful offenders at the Clarksburg facility took place September 10, 2004. Additionally, the TFM is working with Montgomery County Councilman Phil Andrews and the Montgomery County Juvenile Court system to explore the establish-

ment of a mentor program for children and youth in the correctional facility.

The TFM has been repeatedly recognized and commended as a valuable resource and asset to the children, young adults, and the communities within Montgomery County, Maryland. Every year the TFM helps a significant number of children and youth turn their lives around and become positive, active, and socially contributing residents.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Montgomery County, Maryland Task Force on Mentoring for their commitment to improving the lives of all people in the County, and especially the lives of young people.

CASA GRANDE RUINS NATIONAL
MONUMENT BOUNDARY MODIFICATION ACT OF 2004

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument Boundary Modification Act of 2004.

The Casa Grande Ruin Reservation was first set aside on March 2, 1889, and proclaimed as our nation's first archeological preserve on June 22, 1892. On August 3, 1918, the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument was created, to protect one of the finest architectural examples of 13th century Hohokam culture in the American southwest known to early Spanish explorers as the "Great House".

Mr. Speaker, the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument Boundary Modification Act of 2004 will allow the National Park Service to protect newly discovered sites associated with the existing monument and provide greater opportunities to visitors, researchers and surrounding communities to understand and appreciate the Hohokam culture.

This legislation expands the boundary of the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument to include approximately 257 acres, including land owned by the State of Arizona, private property owners and other Federal agencies. This legislation specifies that lands owned by the State of Arizona and private landowners may be acquired only with the consent of the landowners.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument Boundary Modification Act of 2004. This legislation will expand our knowledge of the ancient Hohokam culture in the Southwest.

EWING MARION KAUFFMAN

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kansas City's own "Prescription for Success," Ewing Marion Kauffman. Ewing Kauffman, one of Kansas City's greatest entrepreneurial leaders and philanthropists, is being honored on September 30, 2004 for the continuing gift and proud legacy he left to the community and nation through his Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

Ewing Kauffman's humble boyhood and successful adulthood are a classic Horatio Alger story. He was born September 21, 1916 near Garden City, in Cass County Missouri. Growing up in rural Missouri and later in Kansas City, Ewing's background of hard work and perseverance through adversity instilled the discipline, entrepreneurial principles and philanthropic sympathies that resulted in his extraordinary achievements and remarkable success later in life.

As a boy he sold fish and eggs door-to-door. While bedridden for an entire year with a heart ailment at the age of 11, Ewing read as many as 40 books a month. He worked through high school and junior college driving a laundry truck and earned an associate degree in business in 1936 from Kansas City Junior College. He entered the Navy in World War II and was discharged as Navigator and Ensign.

Upon returning from the war, Ewing began his phenomenal career in pharmaceuticals. He started out as a salesman and became the best one in the business. With a \$5,000 investment, he founded Marion Laboratories in 1950. He operated initially out of the basement of his home. He reportedly chose to use his middle name for his company rather than his last name in order to not reveal his one-man operation: Ewing Kauffman, salesman by day and Marion Labs Manufacturer by night.

Ewing Kauffman attributed his success as a direct result of one fundamental philosophy: Treat others as you would like to be treated. "It is the happiest principle by which to live and the most intelligent principle by which to do business and make money," he said. His entrepreneurial success enabled him to help others. He was beloved by his associates in the pharmaceutical firm through which he provided jobs and economic self-sufficiency to thousands.

He also shared his success with all of Kansas City by bringing back Major League Baseball to the region with his purchase of the Kansas City Royals in 1968, boosting the city's economic base, community profile and civic pride. Ewing's beloved wife, the late Muriel McBrien Kauffman, a philanthropist in her own right with her gifts and perpetual bequests to Kansas City Arts organizations, is also credited with encouraging her husband to invest in the Royals. Their daughter, Julia Irene Kauffman, continues their loving tradition of philanthropy in Kansas City today.

Kauffman's most enduring gift and greatest legacy was the establishment of the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation in the mid 1960s. The Kauffman Foundation places special emphasis on improving the academic achievement of our youth, and in stimulating the growth of entrepreneurship in America. For over 40 years the Kauffman Foundation has successfully helped other to help others to live self-sufficiently and has benefited communities through out the country.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commemorating this most gifted, successful, inspirational, and generous man whose loving legacy has made a difference in countless lives and whose love of the entrepreneurial spirit lives on in the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET JEAN
WALES O'ROURKE

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the fabric of American history is woven with the hearts of Patriots. Since the colonists' first landing on American soil centuries ago, courageous men and women have toiled, sacrificed, and persevered to build a legacy of freedom and hope for future generations.

While the public contributions of some have been widely lauded, the silent service of countless others is known only in the freedom that we as Americans continue to cherish.

Margaret Jean Wales O'Rourke was one such unheralded patriot.

Born on August 24, 1922, Margaret grew up in Saddle River, New Jersey. She became a nurse and spent time serving at St. Albans Hospital in Long Island, New York. In 1943, in the midst of World War II, Margaret answered her country's call and traveled to California to work as a nurse in the San Leandro Naval Hospital.

While in San Leandro, Margaret met Charles Arthur O'Rourke, the man who would become her husband. A fellow-patriot, Charles was born on December 19, 1923, and joined the Navy in 1942 at the tender age of 18. He spent several years at sea serving in the South Pacific during World War II.

Charles and Margaret completed their time in the Navy in 1946. They married and settled in Ramsey, New Jersey. Although their tours of duty were over, however, their service to country did not end.

The O'Rourke's had three children: Thomas, Shirl, and Barbara. Thomas carried on the O'Rourke military tradition and joined the United States Marine Corps in 1966. He remained in the Marines until 1974, serving as a Cobra pilot in Vietnam.

Today, Thomas's son and Margaret and Arthur's grandson, United States Marine Corps Major Kevin Thomas O'Rourke, continues his family's military heritage, serving as an F-18 pilot in Iraq.

Margaret passed away on August 20, 2004. Her course in life took her farther than she may have anticipated, and her legacy will surely be more enduring than she ever could have imagined. Through their dedication to protecting and preserving liberty, three generations of O'Rourke's have now become part of the tapestry of America.

While Margaret's life on earth has passed, her gift to all of us will endure. I honor Margaret's memory, and her service to the United States of America.

HONORING DR. EDWARD N.
BRANDT, JR.

HON. ERNEST J. ISTOOK, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a fellow Oklahoman who has served this country and his fellowman for over 40 years.

It is not often that we are privileged to honor someone who is considered a Living Treasure, but today we indeed are able to do so. Dr. Edward N. Brandt, Jr., received the Oklahoma Health Center "Living Treasures Award" in 2002, a distinction reserved for "Individuals Who Embody the Light of Compassion, Caring and Creativity in our Community, Schools or Work Places." Dr. Brandt is indeed a Living Treasure who has served his community, his state, and his country with tireless dedication, true compassion, remarkable self-effacement, and persistent good humor for over four decades. We are delighted to join with his colleagues, family and friends who are honoring him with a day of activities in his honor on Friday, November 12, 2004, jointly sponsored by the College of Public Health and the College of Medicine of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is also being honored by the establishment of The Edward N. Brandt, Jr., Student Endowment that will sustain activities Dr. Brandt has carried out for students over the years.

Dr. Brandt began his affiliation with the University of Oklahoma over 50 years ago as an undergraduate. He earned three degrees from the University of Oklahoma, starting in 1954 with a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Mathematics from the Norman Campus, and followed in 1960 with a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) and in 1963 with a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Biostatistics from The University of Oklahoma Medical Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He also managed to spend time in Stillwater and earn a Master of Science (M.S.) in Mathematics from the Oklahoma State University in 1955.

Dr. Brandt joined the faculty of the University of Oklahoma Medical Center in 1961, beginning as an Instructor and rising to Professor in the School of Medicine and School of Health. He also began his long and distinguished career in medical administration, serving as Associate Dean of the School of Medicine and as Associate Director of the Medical Center from 1968 to 1969.

Dr. Brandt then left Oklahoma to become a leader in academic medicine and a major figure in health policy in the United States. He spent 11 years in Texas, beginning at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, where he was Professor in the School of Medicine and Graduate School and Dean of the Graduate School from 1970 to 1974, Dean of Medicine from 1973 to 1976, and Executive Dean from 1976 to 1977. He then took over responsibility for the University of Texas System, based in Austin as Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs from 1977 until 1981.

In 1981, Dr. Brandt answered the call of his country and of President Ronald Reagan, and went to Washington to become the senior health official in the Department of Health and Human Services, serving as Assistant Secretary for Health until 1984. In that role he was responsible for overseeing the development of many critical health policies, including the emerging problems associated with AIDS. He worked closely with Secretary Richard S. Schweiker and Secretary Margaret Heckler and with the Congress on these and other health and healthcare issues. Dr. Brandt was also the U.S. Representative to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization from 1982 until 1984.

Dr. Brandt left his leadership position in the federal government to become President of

The University of Maryland at Baltimore and Professor in the School of Medicine, where he served from 1985 until 1989.

Returning home to Oklahoma in 1989, Dr. Brandt has served the Health Sciences Center as a distinguished and well-loved member of the faculty. He was Executive Dean of the University of Oklahoma Medical College from 1989 until 1992. In 1992 he was appointed Professor of Health Administration and Policy in the College of Public Health, and since 1996 has been honored as Regents Professor. He has been the Director of the Center for Health Policy Research and Development since 1992 and was Chair of the Department of Health Administration and Policy in the College of Public Health from 2000 until 2002.

Dr. Brandt has remained a central figure in health policy in this country. He has been an active member and often the Chair of some 160 major health committees, task forces, and boards, including at least 88 national, 44 state, and 30 local ones. These include positions such as Member of the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine from 1985 to 1989, Chairman (1987-89) and Member of the Governing Council of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences (1986-91), and Vice-Chairman (1987-91) and Chairman of the Medical Schools Section of the American Medical Association (1979-81). He has been a leader in the state of Oklahoma with the Oklahoma State Medical Association, serving as a Member of the House of Delegates since 1992 and Chair of the Council on State Legislation and Regulation. He has been a long-time Chair of the Oklahoma State Trauma System Advisory Board.

Dr. Brandt has received some 82 substantial awards during his career. They include the Outstanding Alumni Service Award for "Outstanding Contribution in Academic Medicine," from the Alumni Association of the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine in 1997, the first such award ever given. In 1981 he was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences and was also named "Territorial Marshal" by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma. In 1984 he received the Distinguished Leadership Award, Department of Health and Human Services, and in 1987, the Distinguished Public Service Award, U.S. Department of Defense, both of which were the highest awards made by those Departments. In 1989 the National AIDS Fund established the Edward N. Brandt, Jr. Award in his honor. In 1994 he was elected as Fellow for "Leadership in Academic Medicine and Public Health, and for Outstanding Service in the Federal Government" by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He received the 1997 Leadership Award for "Extraordinary Service and Leadership in Injury Prevention" from the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control and the Joan K. Leavitt Outstanding Achievement Award from the Oklahoma Hospital Association. He was recognized by the National Institutes of Health Office of Research in Women's Health with the "Visionary in Women's Health Award" in 2000 and by the University of Oklahoma with the "Golden Scalpel" Award for Contributions to Trauma Care in 2001, and was selected to be a "National Associate" of the National Academy of Sciences also in 2001. This year he was elected as Fellow for "Leadership in Academic Medicine and Public Health, and for Outstanding Service in

the Federal Government" by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and is to be honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of the College of Arts & Sciences of the University of Oklahoma in 2005.

In addition to his many professional accomplishments, Dr. Brandt and his wife of 51 years, Patricia Lawson Brandt, raised three sons, Patrick James, Edward III, and Rex Carlin Brandt. They have four grandchildren, Rex Carlin Brandt, Jr., Jeremy Scott Brandt, Justin Schwartz and Karina Schwartz.

This Fall, Dr. Brandt will "retire." In fact, he has become Regents Professor Emeritus and continues to teach, advise students and otherwise remain active in many activities of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. I am pleased to join with the citizens of the great state of Oklahoma and of this nation in thanking and recognizing Dr. Edward N. Brandt, Jr., for his long service and many contributions to our society. We are proud to have a gentleman, scholar, and citizen of his caliber in our midst.

RECOGNIZING THE BRACEROS

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the achievements of Hispanic Americans during Hispanic Heritage Month, I stand to recognize a group of individuals, known as the Braceros, for their incredible contributions to our great nation during World War II.

September 29th marked the Day of the Bracero. These brave men registered to leave their wives and children behind in their country of origin and homes, while they came to the United States as the "soldiers of the fields." The Braceros wore no uniform and received no medals, but today I rise to honor the Braceros just as I salute our World War II veterans, living and deceased, for their contributions to a safer world and democracy.

This is merely a partial list of the hundreds of Braceros whose families live in my district:

Antonio Silva; Jesus Fernandez; Julian Paras Aguilera; Jesus Sanchez Beltran; Amador Palafox Bustos; Exiquio Contreras Parra; Leonides Gomez; Arturo Venegas, Sr.; Jose Luis Figueroa Tamayo Jose Negrete Sanchez; Jose Dolores Magaña Areas; Jose Ramirez Barajas; J. Jesus Torres Salas; Sr. Gutierrez; Alejandro Arellano; Sr. Magaña; Pedro de Luna; Roberto Mauzo; Jose F. Ramirez; Rodolfo Martinez Castillo; Modesto Martinez Rosas Ramon Barraza; Carlos Rodriguez; Julian Paras; Jose Guadalupe Ruiz Aguilar; Ruben Cortez Luna; Jose Isabel Viarato; Antonio Hernandez; Joaquin Mendez Mendez; Jesus Torres Salas Rodolfo Castaneda; Juan Reyes Garcia; Rodrigo Izquierdo; Jose Diaz; Conrado Cardenas; Lazaro Gonzalo; Martin Perez; Celedonio Perez; Jose Lua; Cecilio Santillana; Sotero Cervantes; Flores Timoteo; Juan Rico; Francisco Mariscal; Manuel Nava; Jesus Macias;

Ruben Jarillo; Juan Rico; Juan Baes; Manuel Briceno; Arturo Romero Barajas; Jose Sanchez Rodriguez; Gonzalo Castaneda; Honorio Ramirez; Antonio Gutierrez; etc.

World War II forced our nation to shift the economy. Throughout the war, upwards of 13 million men served in our nation, roughly one-tenth of the total population. While our servicemen were fighting across the oceans, millions more were working constant shifts in the factories to support the war effort. This resulted in a severe labor shortage in concentrated areas, such as agriculture.

In an effort to minimize this loss of labor, the United States and Mexico entered into a bilateral agreement in August 1942 to provide contracted labor.

These guest workers, known as Braceros, (a derivative of "brazo" literally meaning "arm") were recruited and hired to work in the fields and on the railroads across the United States.

The first 1,500 Braceros to enter the United States arrived in California to work in the sugar beet fields outside of Stockton on September 29, 1942, where they worked until December 24th of that same year.

Over the course of the next twenty-two years, as many as five million Braceros had participated in the program, supporting our critical infrastructure. Some of them would travel back and forth from the United States to Mexico over a century, each time leaving their wives and children behind again.

Jesus Sanchez Beltran was a Bracero from Jalisco, Mexico, until the program ended. There were six in his family that he left behind to work in the California agriculture. His wife and children would only see him three months out of the year. Jesus' story reflects the sacrifice of all the Braceros.

It was through their hard work that our nation was able to effectively sustain our agricultural economy as well as expand and maintain our railroads, resulting in a safe, reliable and effective means of transporting our food, medicine, troops and other supplies for the war.

In 1964, the last Braceros fulfilled their contracts and the program came to an end. However, their contributions and the contributions of their descendants still last today.

The President of the United States has called upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities and programs. May we honor their contributions and recognize the Braceros for their place in American history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to the devastation Hurricane Jeanne brought to my district, I was in Florida attending to official duties on Tuesday, September 28 and Wednesday, September 29 and was unable to be in Washington for recorded votes 473–479.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES 107, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with frustration that I rise today to oppose H.J. Res. 107, to make continuing appropriations for Fiscal Year 2005, as it is currently drafted.

I want to be clear—I am not opposing the need for, or principle of, this resolution. I, like any of my colleagues, do not believe our nation's federal agencies and numerous, federally-funded programs should suffer just because Congress has failed to reach agreements on 12 of the 13 appropriations measures.

I do, however, take issue with one specific provision attached to the Continuing Resolution (CR) which extends, for the duration of the CR, fee collection authority under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) of 1977. Commonly known as the Abandoned Mine Land or "AML" program, this fee collection authority was intended to expire at the end of this fiscal year, or tomorrow, Sept. 30, 2004.

Layered in bureaucracy, the AML program is one badly in need of reform. Believing in the principle of the AML program, however, I have been working diligently with my colleagues from Pennsylvania, West Virginia, other members of the Resources Committee, Appropriators, Leadership in this body, and the Administration in the effort to provide that much needed reform before this program expired. Unfortunately, largely due to election year politics and an unwillingness to meet a reasonable compromise by some parties involved, comprehensive reform legislation still lags at the Committee level.

As we continue to negotiate such a comprehensive fix, extending this broken program as the bill under consideration today will do, does not move us any closer to finding a solution that best addresses the needs of all parties involved. In addition to accumulating debts to other certified states and tribes, Wyoming alone is owed approximately \$400 million, as authorized by SMCRA. Notwithstanding that fiscal obligation, Wyoming has never received what it is due. The AML extension language included in H.J. Res 107 only further exacerbates this failure to make good on the nation's responsibility to my home State of Wyoming.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would prefer not to oppose this resolution today. Unfortunately, the decision to include the AML extension language in H.J. Res 107, despite my continued and consistent opposition to such an action, provided me with no other option but a "no" vote.